BUCKY and TORO

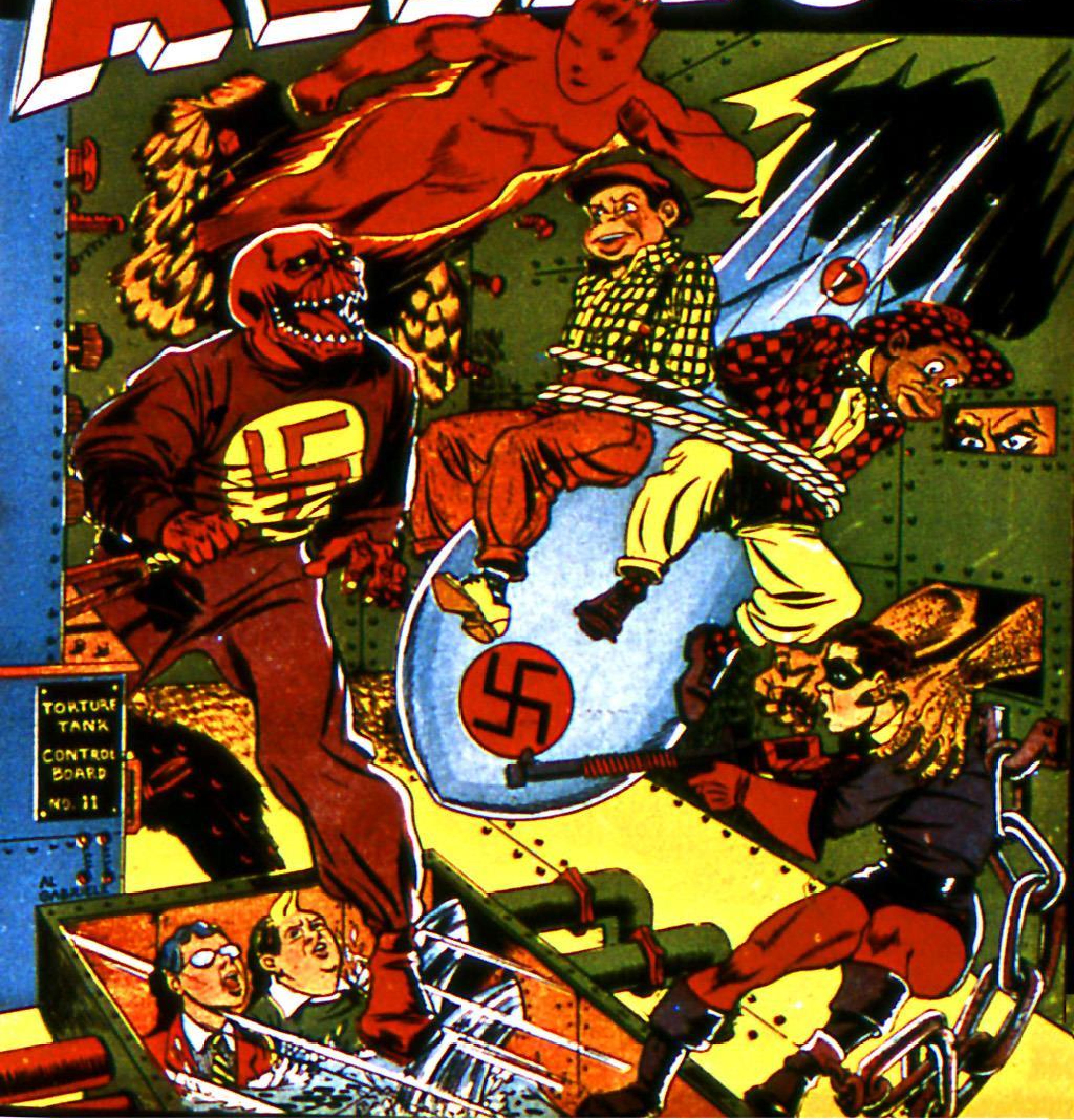
IN

YOUNG ALLIES

NO. 4

10¢

SUMMER ISSUE



TORTURE TANK CONTROL BOARD No. 11
AL GABRIELE

The YOUNG ALLIES

SCRIPT AND EDITORIAL
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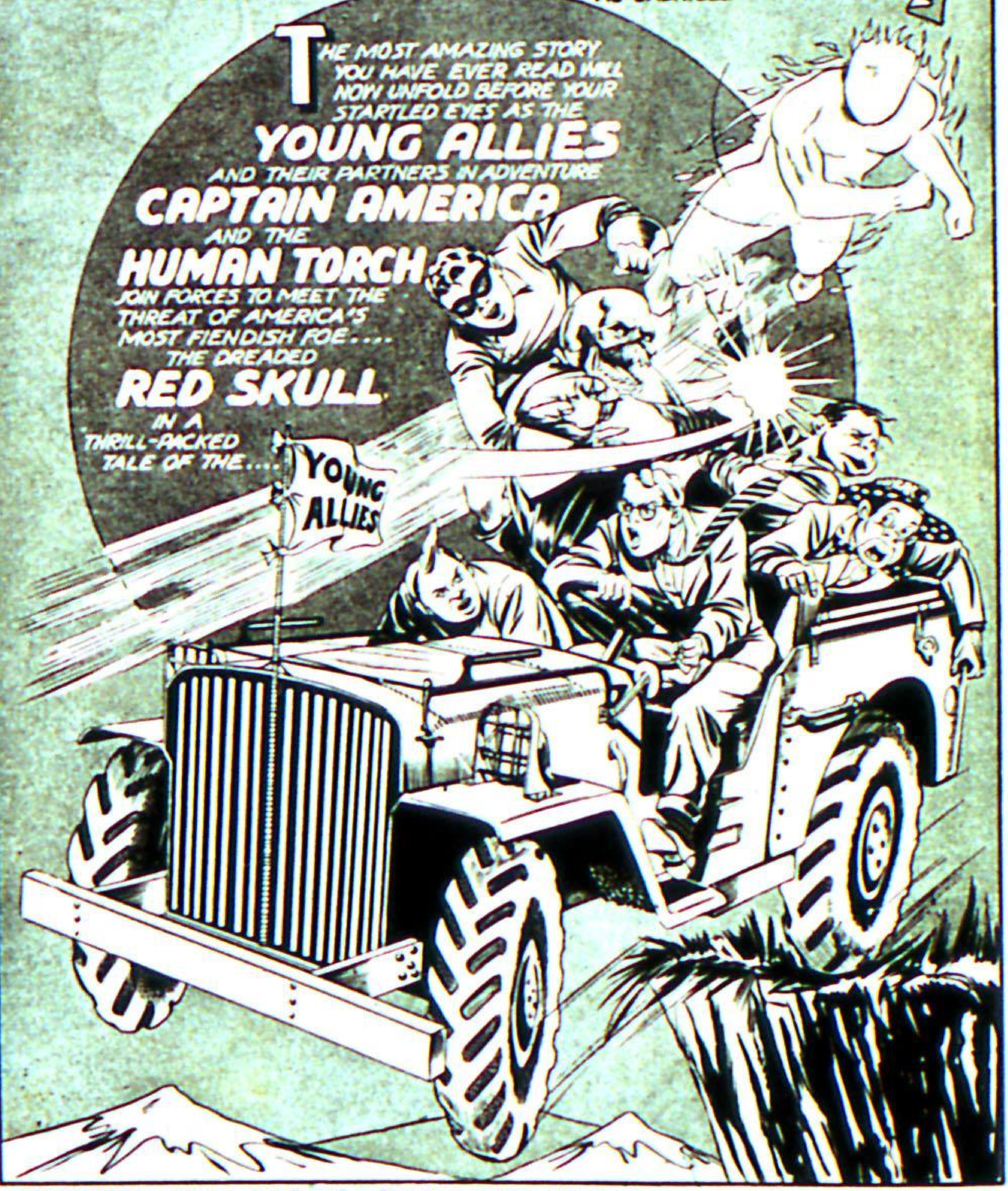
ILLUSTRATED BY
• AL GABRIELE •


THE MOST AMAZING STORY YOU HAVE EVER READ WILL NOW UNFOLD BEFORE YOUR STARTLED EYES AS THE YOUNG ALLIES AND THEIR PARTNERS IN ADVENTURE CAPTAIN AMERICA AND THE HUMAN TORCH JOIN FORCES TO MEET THE THREAT OF AMERICA'S MOST FIENDISH FOE.... THE DREADED RED SKULL IN A THRILL-PACKED TALE OF THE....
YOUNG ALLIES

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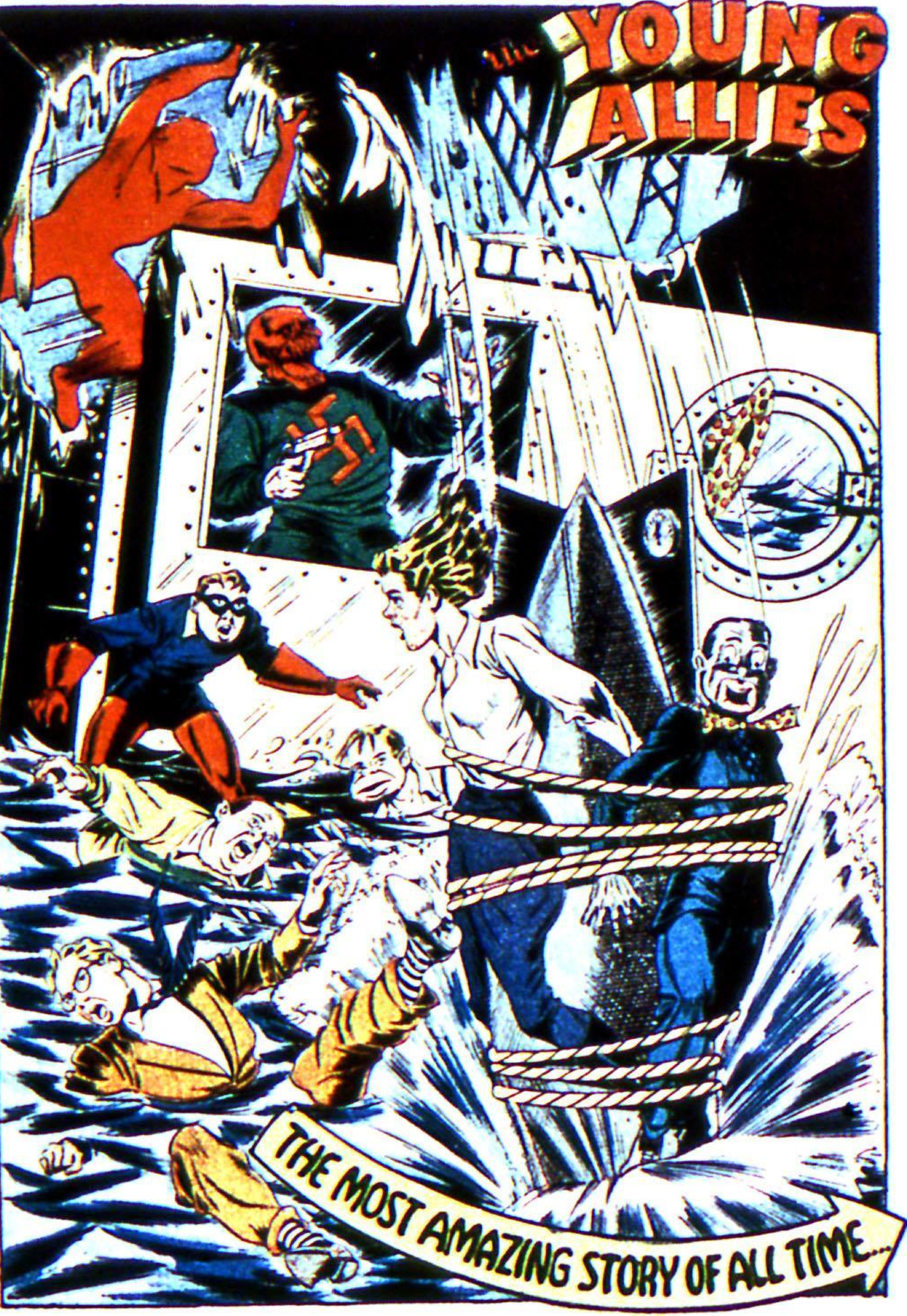
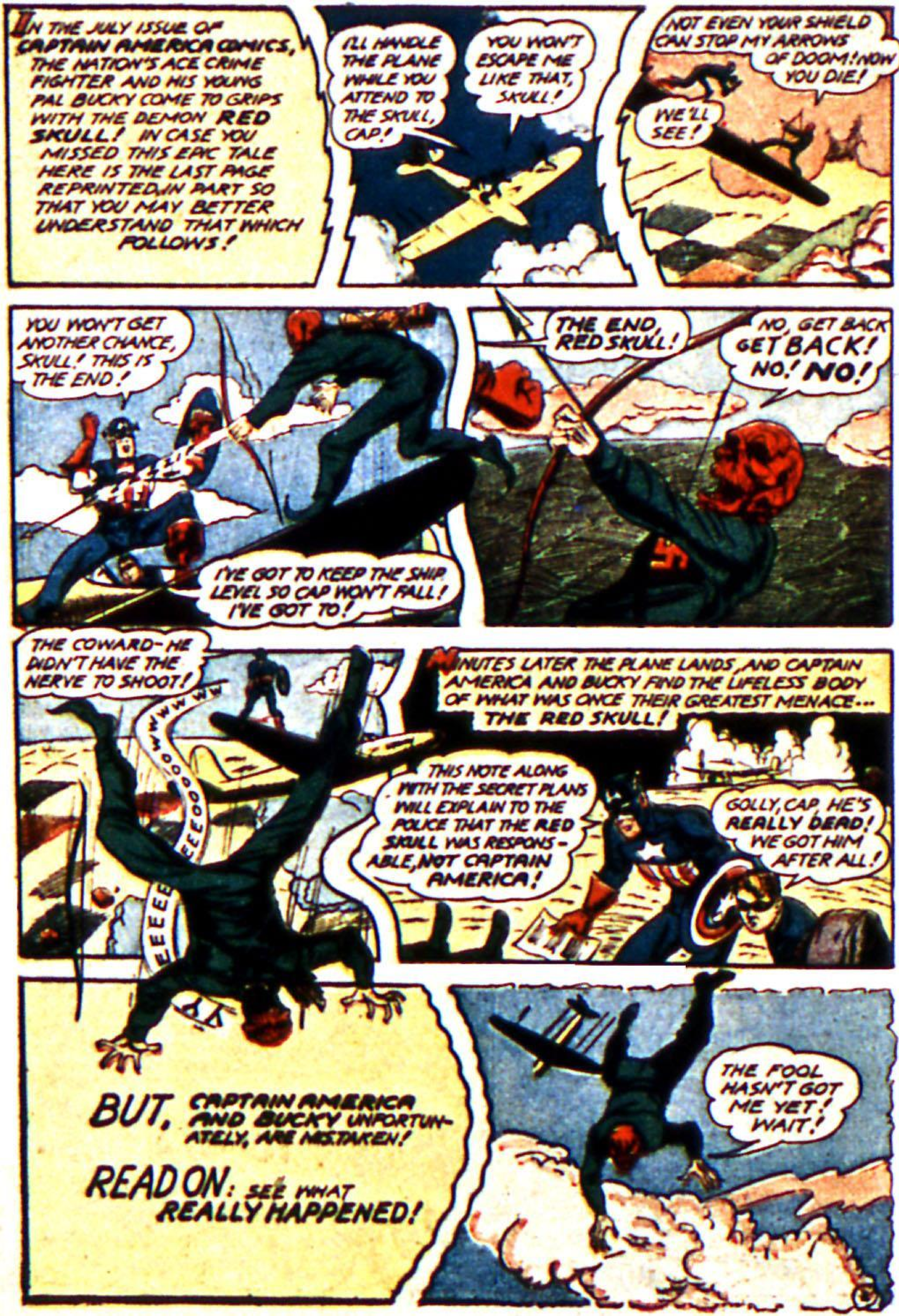
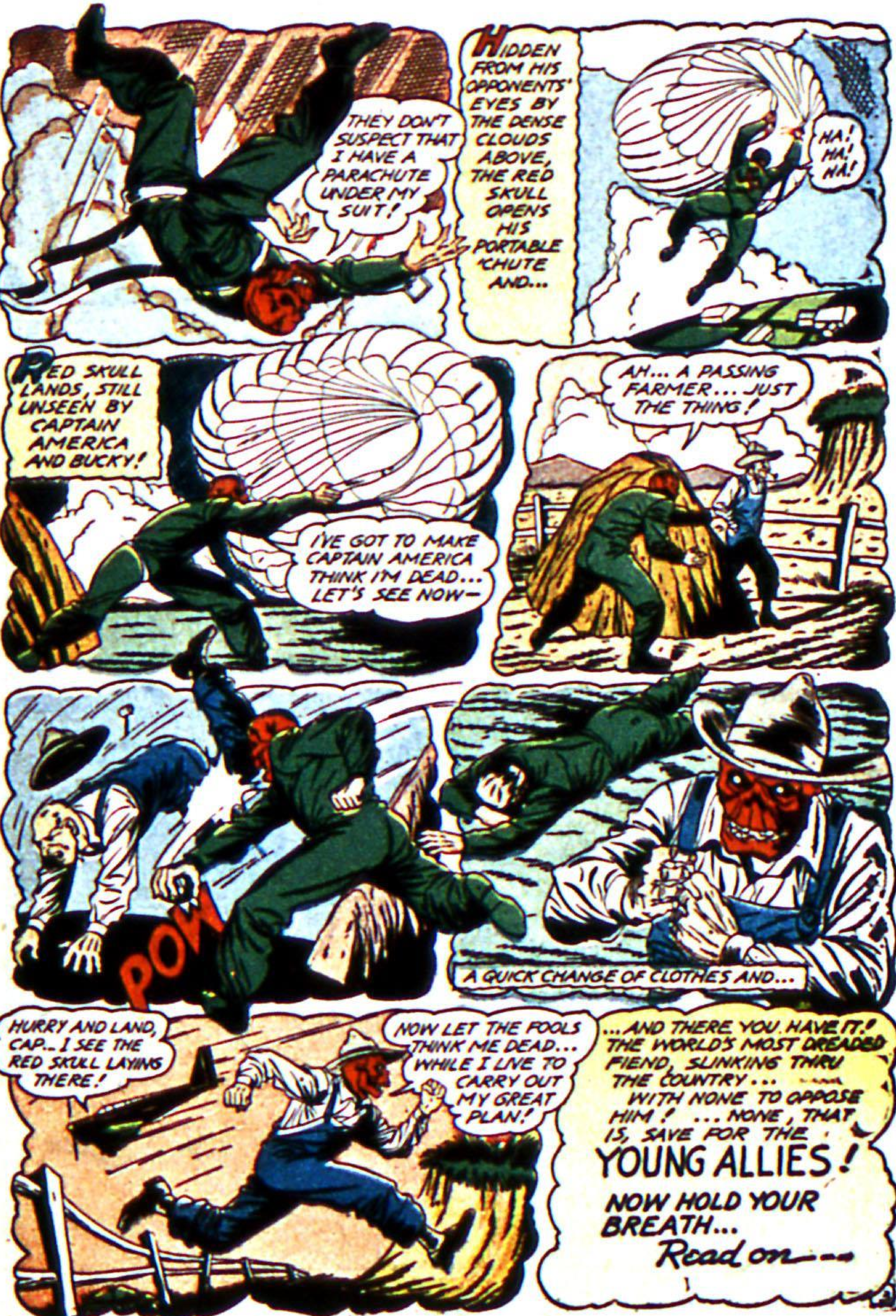
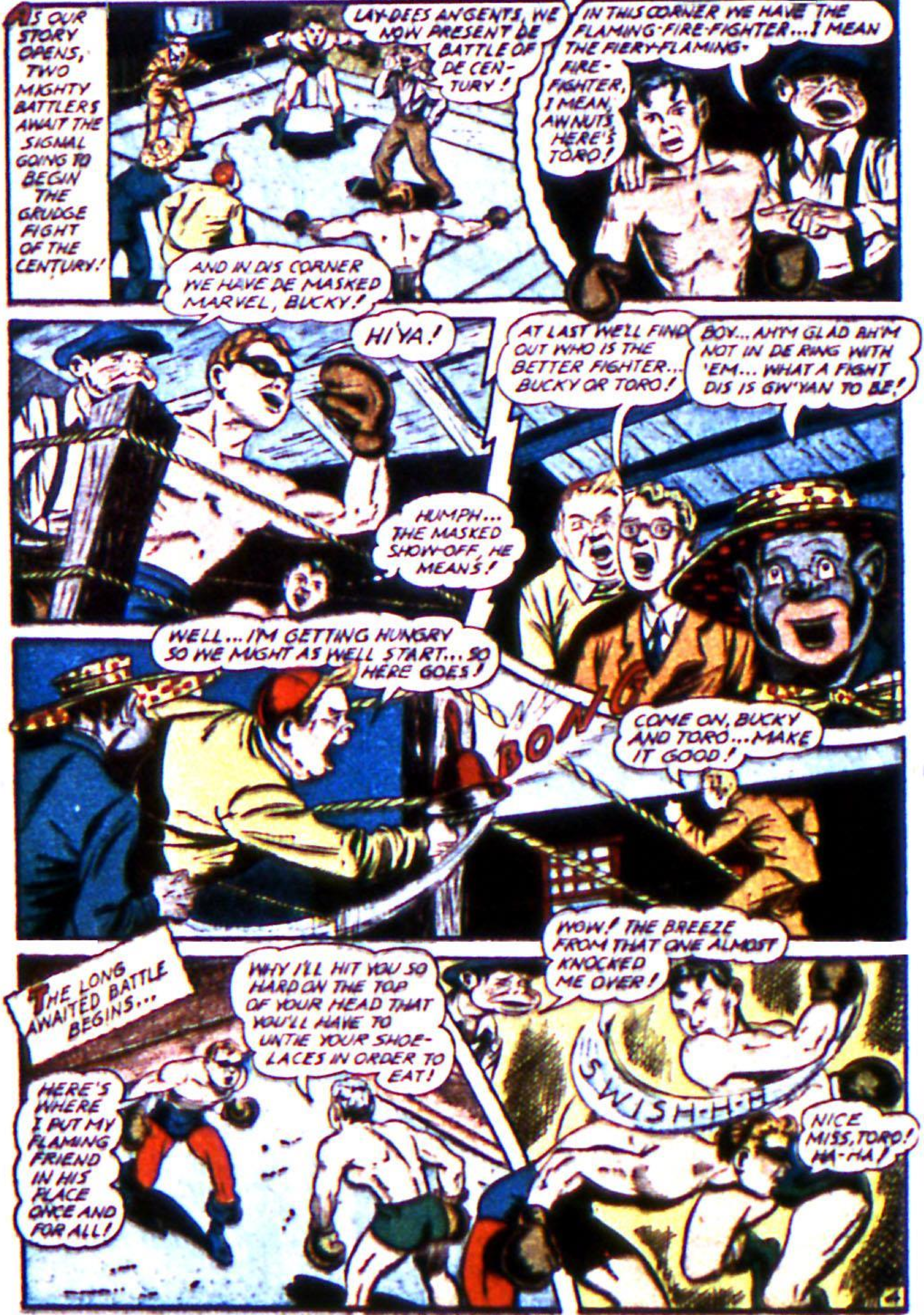
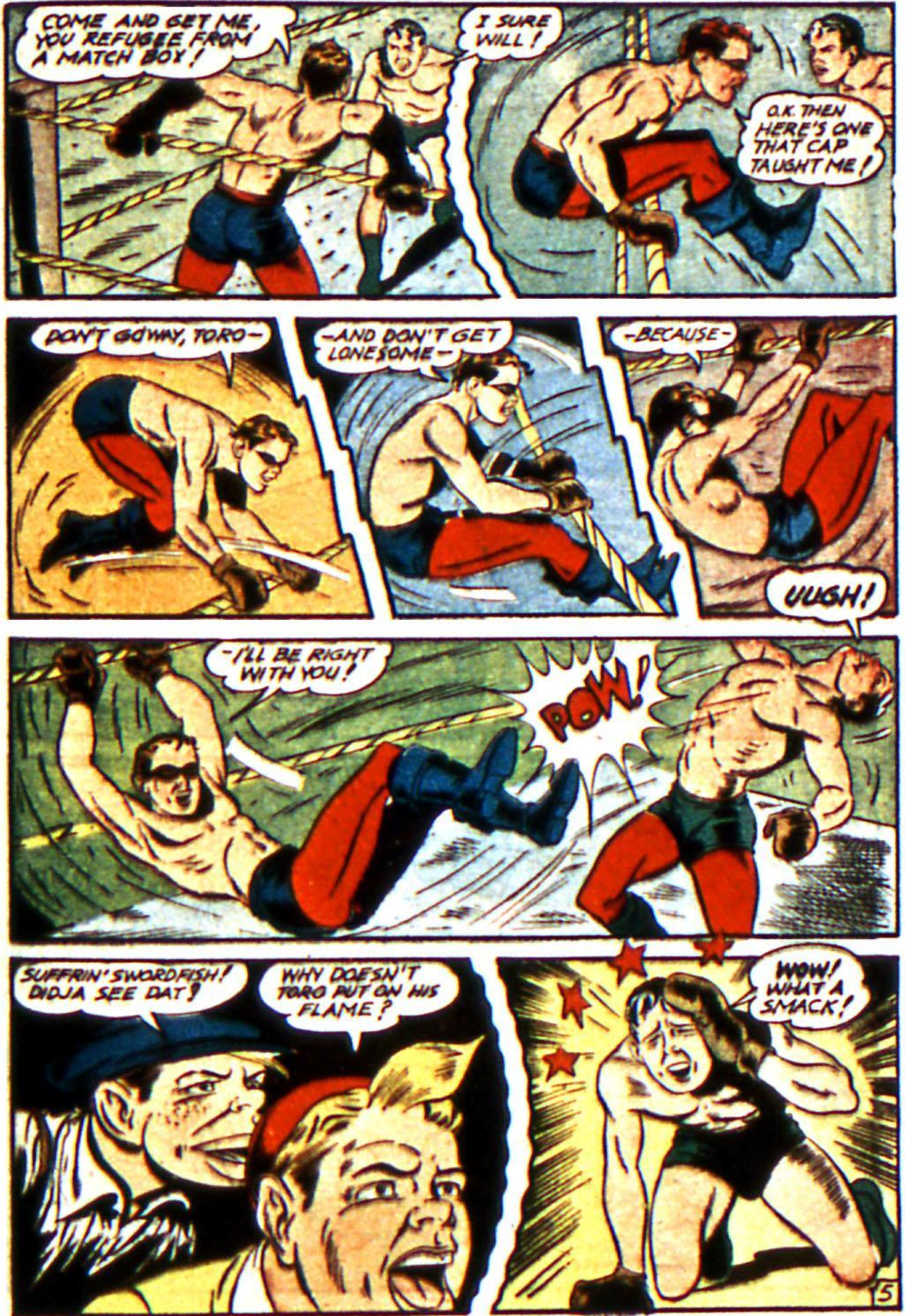
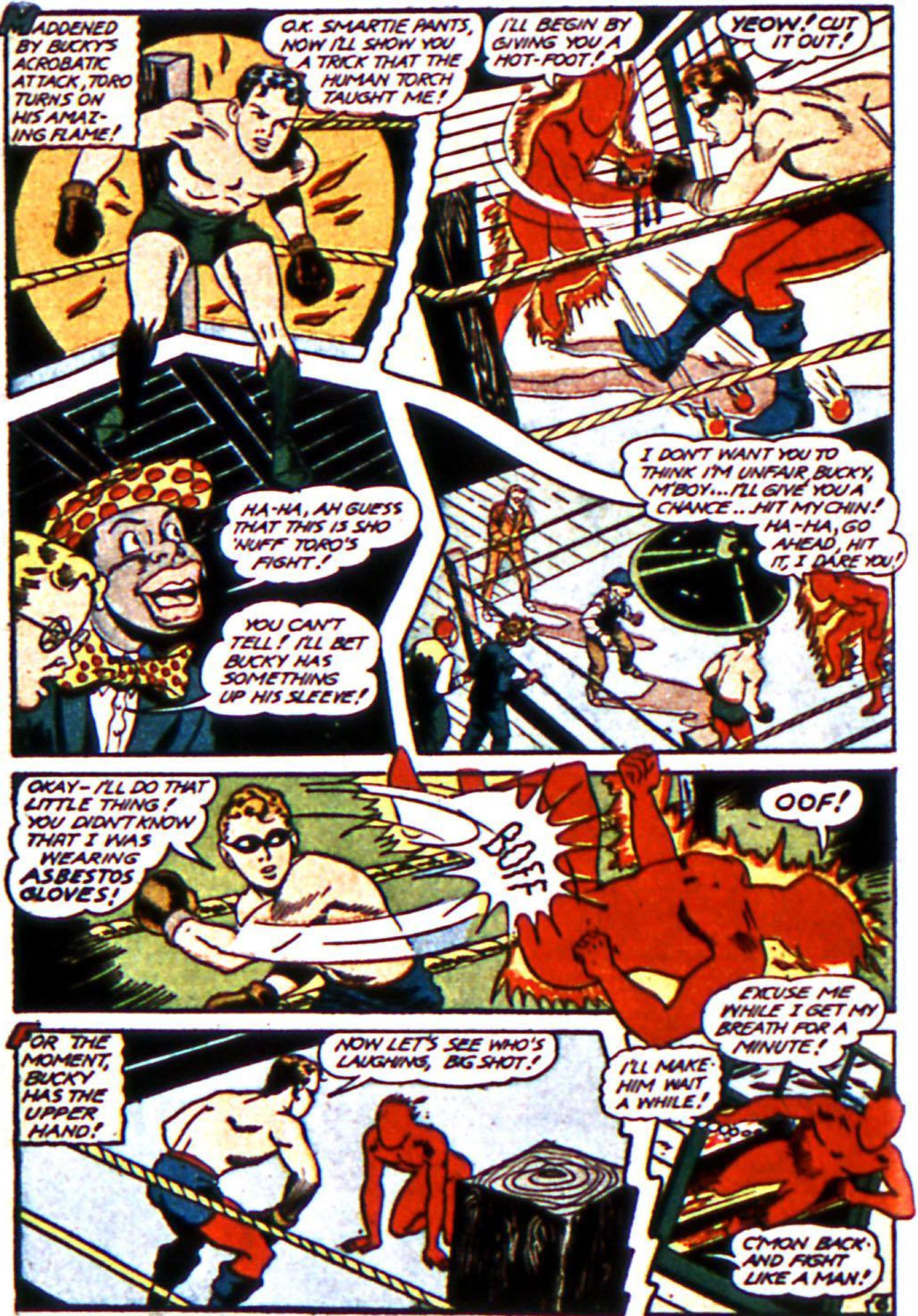

the YOUNG ALLIES
THE MOST AMAZING STORY OF ALL TIME...

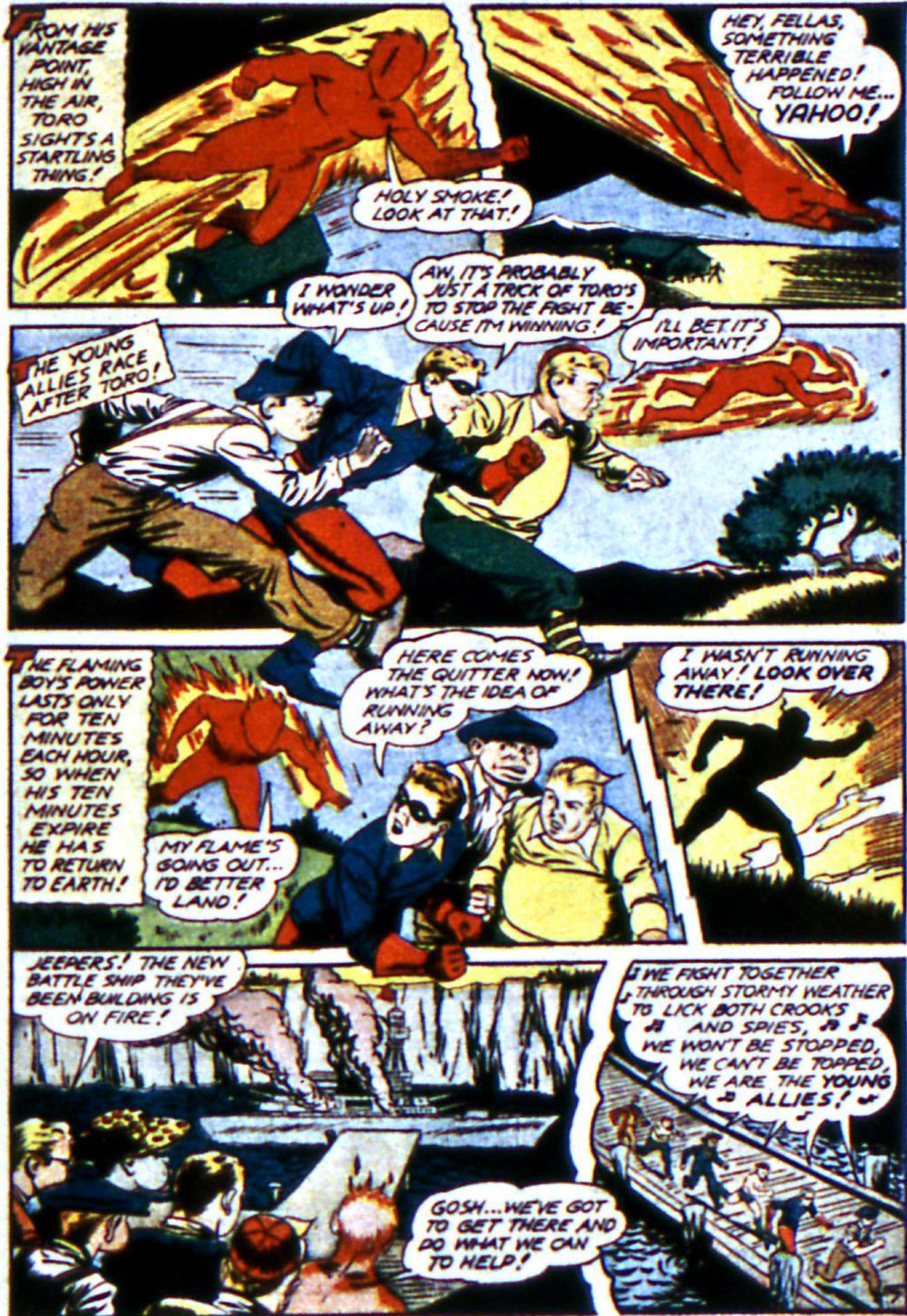

IN THE JULY ISSUE OF CAPTAIN AMERICA COMICS, THE NATION'S ACE CRIME FIGHTER AND HIS YOUNG PAL BUCKY COME TO GRIPS WITH THE DEMON RED SKULL! IN CASE YOU MISSED THIS EPIC TALE HERE IS THE LAST PAGE REPRINTED, IN PART SO THAT YOU MAY BETTER UNDERSTAND THAT WHICH FOLLOWS!
I'LL HANDLE THE PLANE WHILE YOU ATTEND TO THE SKULL, CAP!
YOU WON'T ESCAPE ME LIKE THAT, SKULL!
NOT EVEN YOUR SHIELD CAN STOP MY ARROWS OF DOOM! NOW YOU DIE!
WE'LL SEE!
YOU WON'T GET ANOTHER CHANCE, SKULL! THIS IS THE END!
I'VE GOT TO KEEP THE SHIP LEVEL SO CAP WON'T FALL! I'VE GOT TO!
THE END, RED SKULL!
NO, GET BACK GET BACK! NO! NO!
THE COWARD-HE DIDN'T HAVE THE NERVE TO SHOOT!
WWWWWWOOOOOOEEEEEEEEEEE
MINUTES LATER THE PLANE LANDS, AND CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY FIND THE LIFELESS BODY OF WHAT WAS ONCE THEIR GREATEST MENACE... THE RED SKULL!
THIS NOTE ALONG WITH THE SECRET PLANS WILL EXPLAIN TO THE POLICE THAT THE RED SKULL WAS RESPONSABLE, NOT CAPTAIN AMERICA!
GOLLY, CAP, HE'S REALLY DEAD! WE GOT HIM AFTER ALL!
BUT, CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY UNFORTUNATELY, ARE MISTAKEN!
READ ON: SEE WHAT REALLY HAPPENED!
THE FOOL HASN'T GOT ME YET! WAIT!

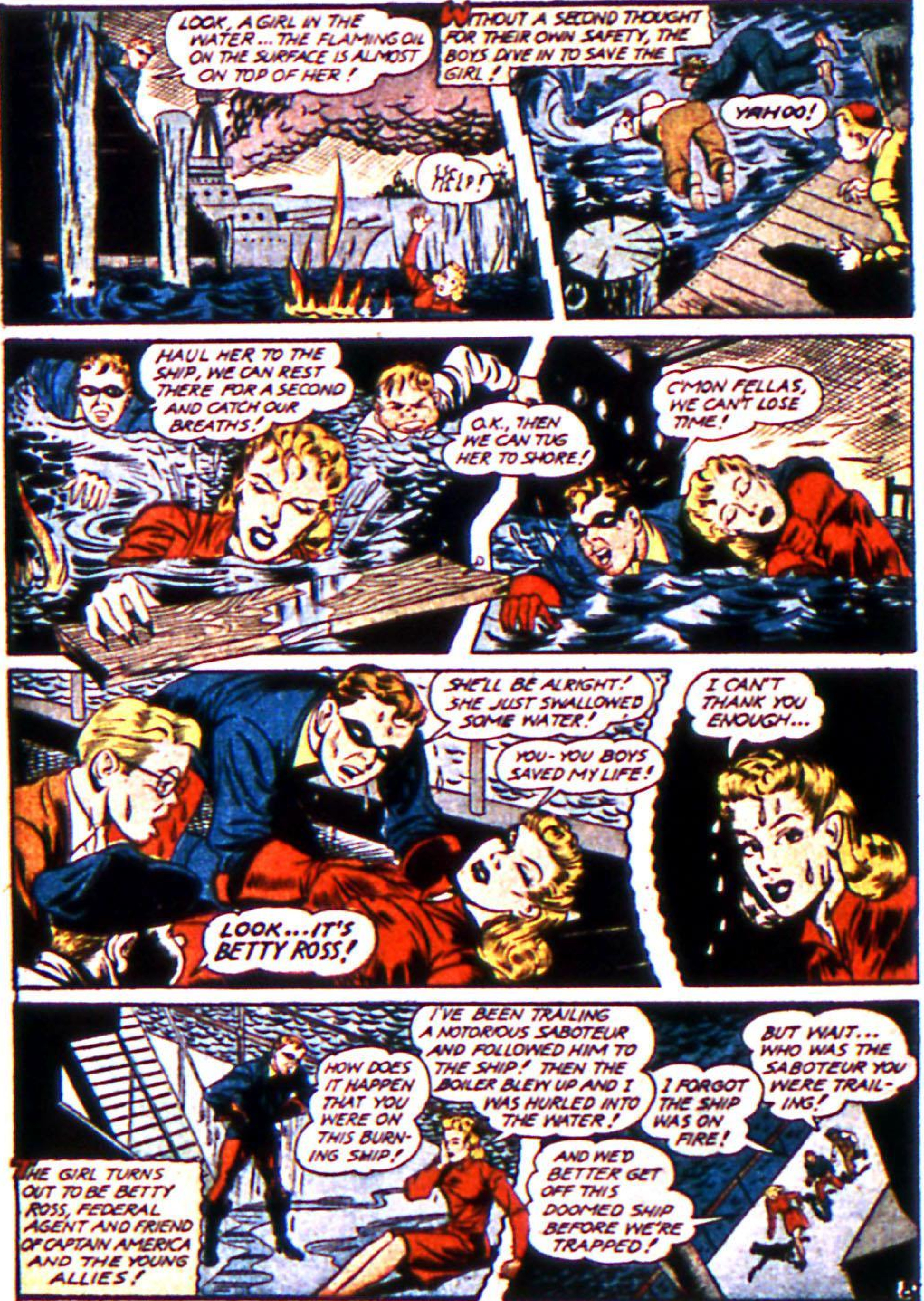

THEY DON'T SUSPECT THAT I HAVE A PARACHUTE UNDER MY SUIT!
HIDDEN FROM HIS OPPONENTS' EYES BY THE DENSE CLOUDS ABOVE, THE RED SKULL OPENS HIS PORTABLE 'CHUTE AND...
HA! HA! HA!
RED SKULL LANDS, STILL UNSEEN BY CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY!
I'VE GOT TO MAKE CAPTAIN AMERICA THINK I'M DEAD... LET'S SEE NOW—
AH... A PASSING FARMER... JUST THE THING!
POW
A QUICK CHANGE OF CLOTHES AND...
HURRY AND LAND, CAP... I SEE THE RED SKULL LAYING THERE!
NOW LET THE FOOLS THINK ME DEAD... WHILE I LIVE TO CARRY OUT MY GREAT PLAN!
...AND THERE YOU HAVE IT! THE WORLD'S MOST DREADED FIEND, SLINKING THRU THE COUNTRY... WITH NONE TO OPPOSE HIM! ...NONE, THAT IS, SAVE FOR THE YOUNG ALLIES! NOW HOLD YOUR BREATH... Read on...

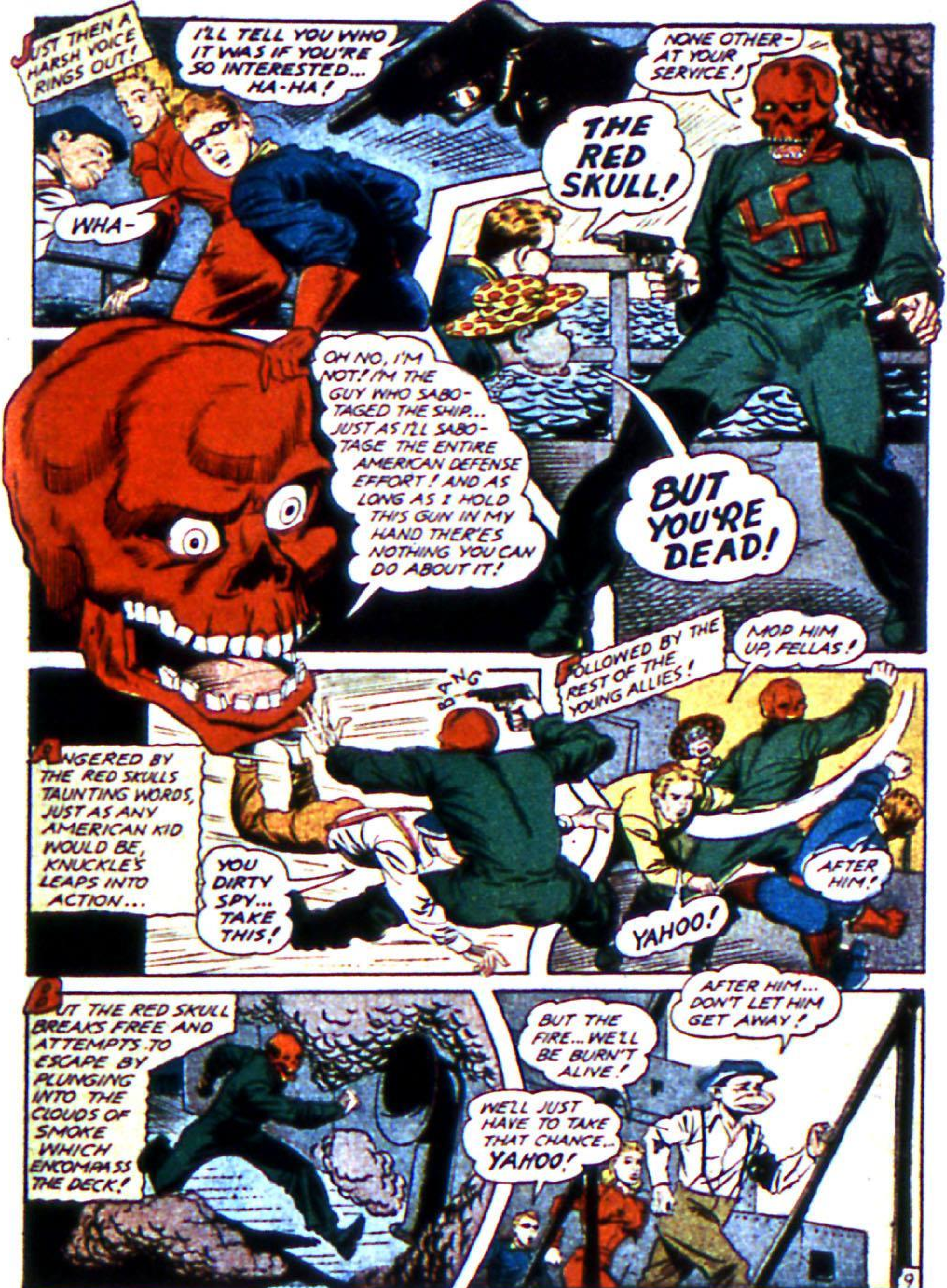

AS OUR STORY OPENS, TWO MIGHTY BATTLERS AWAIT THE SIGNAL GOING TO BEGIN THE GRUDGE FIGHT OF THE CENTURY!
LAY-DEES AN' GENTS, WE NOW PRESENT DE BATTLE OF DE CENTURY!
IN THIS CORNER WE HAVE THE FLAMING-FIRE-FIGHTER... I MEAN THE FIERY-FLAMING-FIRE-FIGHTER, I MEAN, AW NUTS HERE'S TORO!
AND IN DIS CORNER WE HAVE DE MASKED MARVEL, BUCKY!
HI YA!
AT LAST WE'LL FIND OUT WHO IS THE BETTER FIGHTER... BUCKY OR TORO!
BOY... AH'M GLAD AH'M NOT IN DE RING WITH 'EM... WHAT A FIGHT DIS IS GW'YAN TO BE!
HUMPH... THE MASKED SHOW-OFF, HE MEANS!
WELL... I'M GETTING HUNGRY SO WE MIGHT AS WELL START... SO HERE GOES!
BONG
COME ON, BUCKY AND TORO... MAKE IT GOOD!
THE LONG AWAITED BATTLE BEGINS...
WHY I'LL HIT YOU SO HARD ON THE TOP OF YOUR HEAD THAT YOU'LL HAVE TO UNTIE YOUR SHOE-LACES IN ORDER TO EAT!
WOW! THE BREEZE FROM THAT ONE ALMOST KNOCKED ME OVER!
HERE'S WHERE I PUT MY FLAMING FRIEND IN HIS PLACE ONCE AND FOR ALL!
S-W-I-S-H-H-H
NICE MISS, TORO! HA-HA!

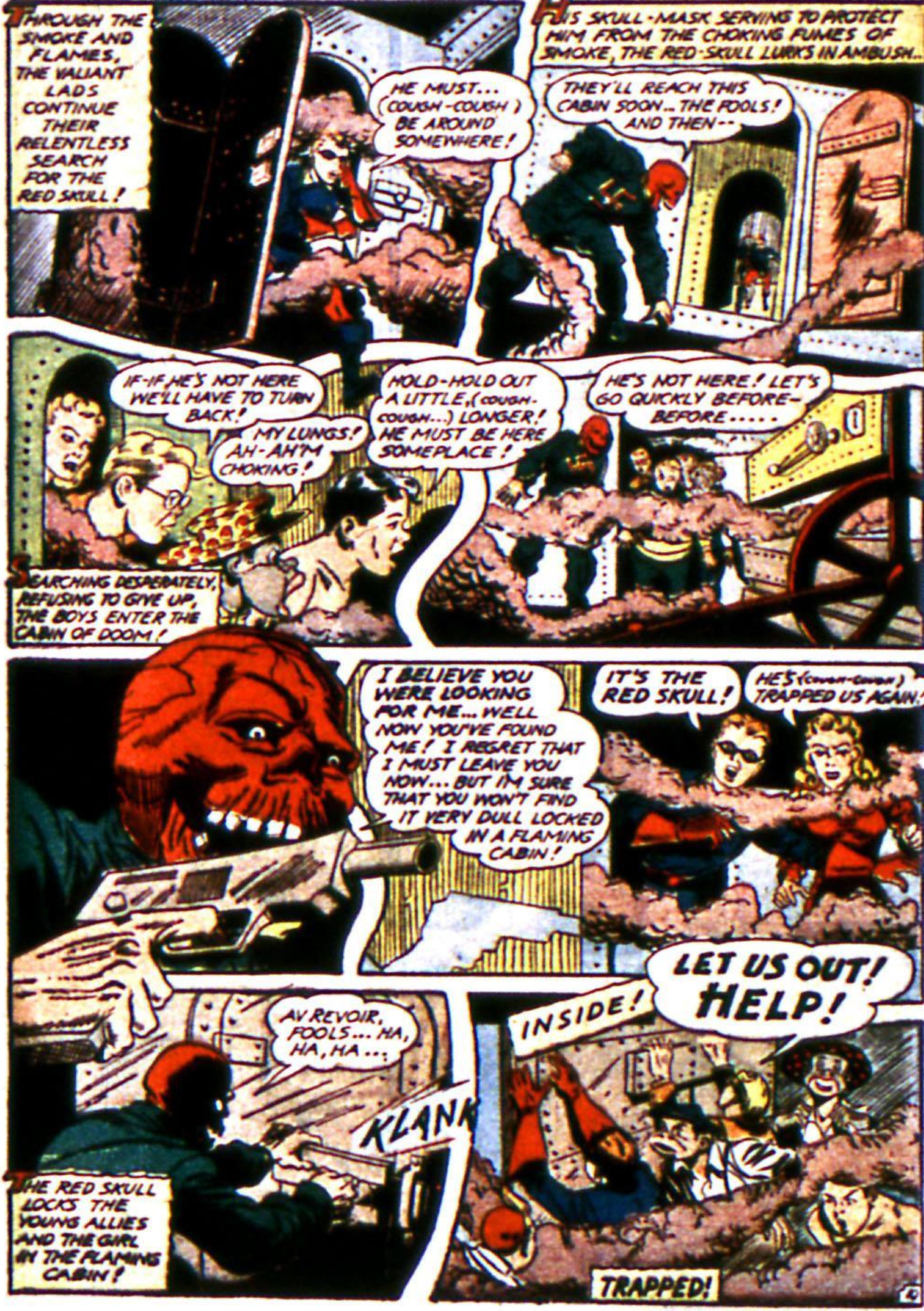

COME AND GET ME, YOU REFUGEE FROM A MATCH BOY!
I SURE WILL!
O.K. THEN HERE'S ONE THAT CAP TAUGHT ME!
DON'T GO'WAY, TORO—
—AND DON'T GET LONESOME—
—BECAUSE—
UUGH!
—I'LL BE RIGHT WITH YOU!
POW!
SUFFRIN' SWORDFISH! DIDJA SEE DAT?
WHY DOESN'T TORO PUT ON HIS FLAME?
WOW! WHAT A SMACK!

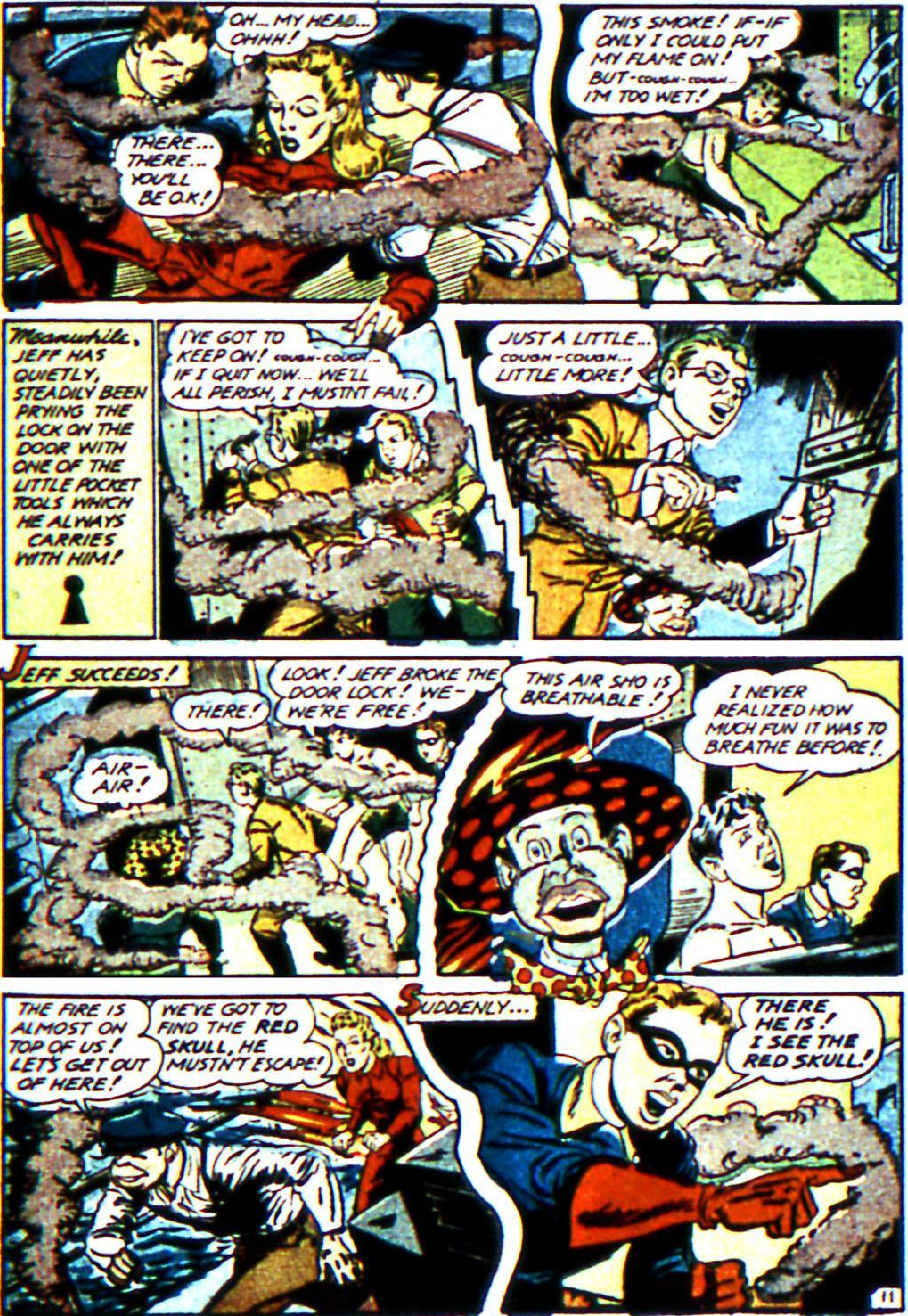

MADDENED BY BUCKY'S ACROBATIC ATTACK, TORO TURNS ON HIS AMAZING FLAME!
O.K. SMARTIE PANTS, NOW I'LL SHOW YOU A TRICK THAT THE HUMAN TORCH TAUGHT ME!
I'LL BEGIN BY GIVING YOU A HOT-FOOT!
YEOW! CUT IT OUT!
HA-HA, AH GUESS THAT THIS IS SHO 'NUFF TORO'S FIGHT!
YOU CAN'T TELL! I'LL BET BUCKY HAS SOMETHING UP HIS SLEEVE!
I DON'T WANT YOU TO THINK I'M UNFAIR, BUCKY, M'BOY...I'LL GIVE YOU A CHANCE...HIT MY CHIN!
HA-HA, GO AHEAD, HIT IT, I DARE YOU!
OKAY- I'LL DO THAT LITTLE THING! YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT I WAS WEARING ASBESTOS GLOVES!
BOFF
OOF!
FOR THE MOMENT, BUCKY HAS THE UPPER HAND!
NOW LET'S SEE WHO'S LAUGHING, BIG SHOT!
I'LL MAKE HIM WAIT A WHILE!
EXCUSE ME WHILE I GET MY BREATH FOR A MINUTE!
C'MON BACK AND FIGHT LIKE A MAN!

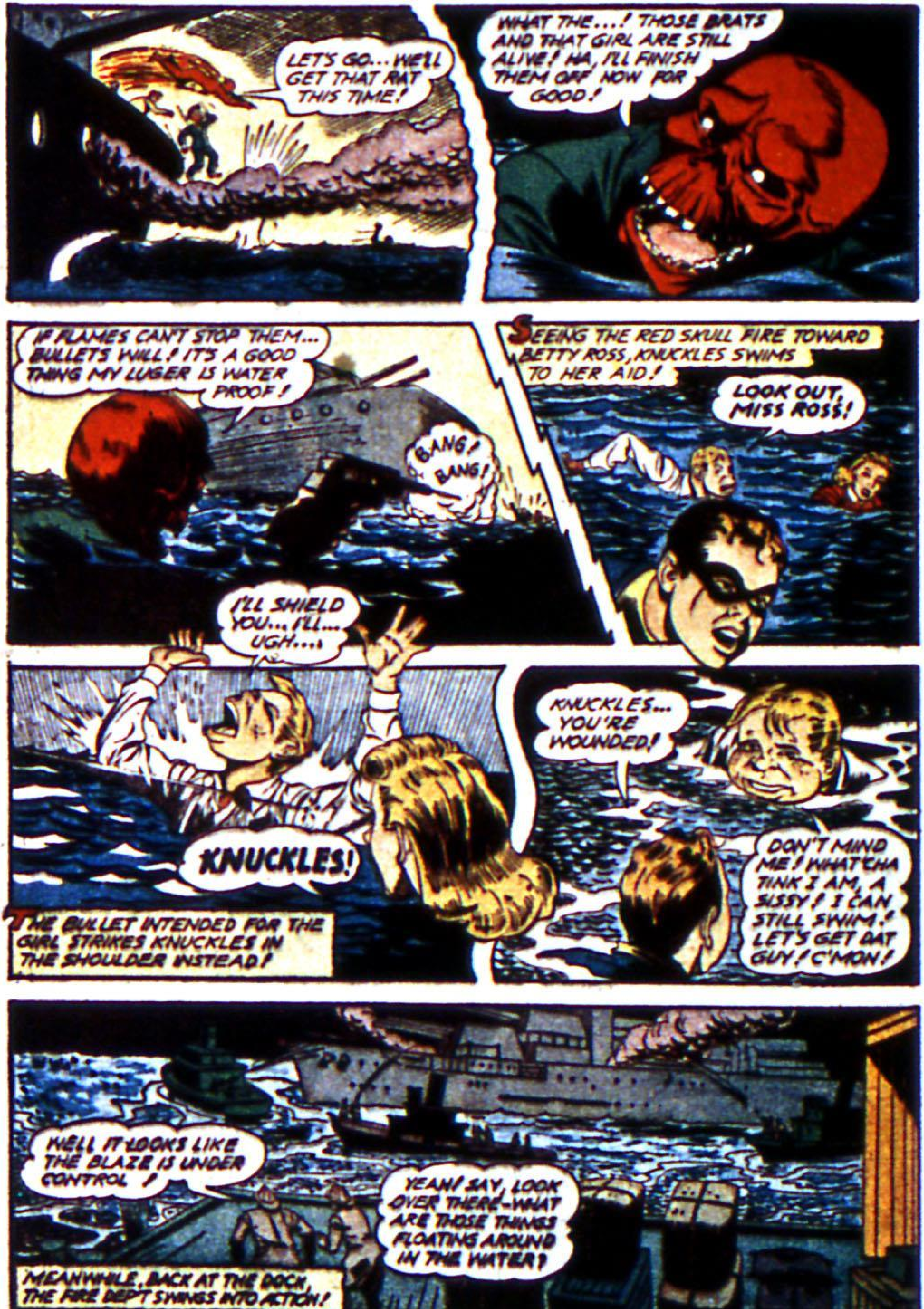

FROM HIS VANTAGE POINT, HIGH IN THE AIR, TORO SIGHTS A STARTLING THING!
HOLY SMOKE! LOOK AT THAT!
HEY, FELLAS, SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAPPENED! FOLLOW ME... YAHOO!
THE YOUNG ALLIES RACE AFTER TORO!
I WONDER WHAT'S UP!
AW, IT'S PROBABLY JUST A TRICK OF TORO'S TO STOP THE FIGHT BECAUSE I'M WINNING!
I'LL BET IT'S IMPORTANT!
THE FLAMING BOY'S POWER LASTS ONLY FOR TEN MINUTES EACH HOUR, SO WHEN HIS TEN MINUTES EXPIRE HE HAS TO RETURN TO EARTH!
MY FLAME'S GOING OUT... I'D BETTER LAND!
HERE COMES THE QUITTER NOW! WHAT'S THE IDEA OF RUNNING AWAY?
I WASN'T RUNNING AWAY! LOOK OVER THERE!
JEEPERS! THE NEW BATTLE SHIP THEY'VE BEEN BUILDING IS ON FIRE!
GOSH... WE'VE GOT TO GET THERE AND DO WHAT WE CAN TO HELP!
♪ WE FIGHT TOGETHER ♪ THROUGH STORMY WEATHER TO LICK BOTH CROOKS ♫ AND SPIES, ♫ ♪ WE WON'T BE STOPPED, WE CAN'T BE TOPPED, WE ARE THE YOUNG ♫ ALLIES! ♪ ♪

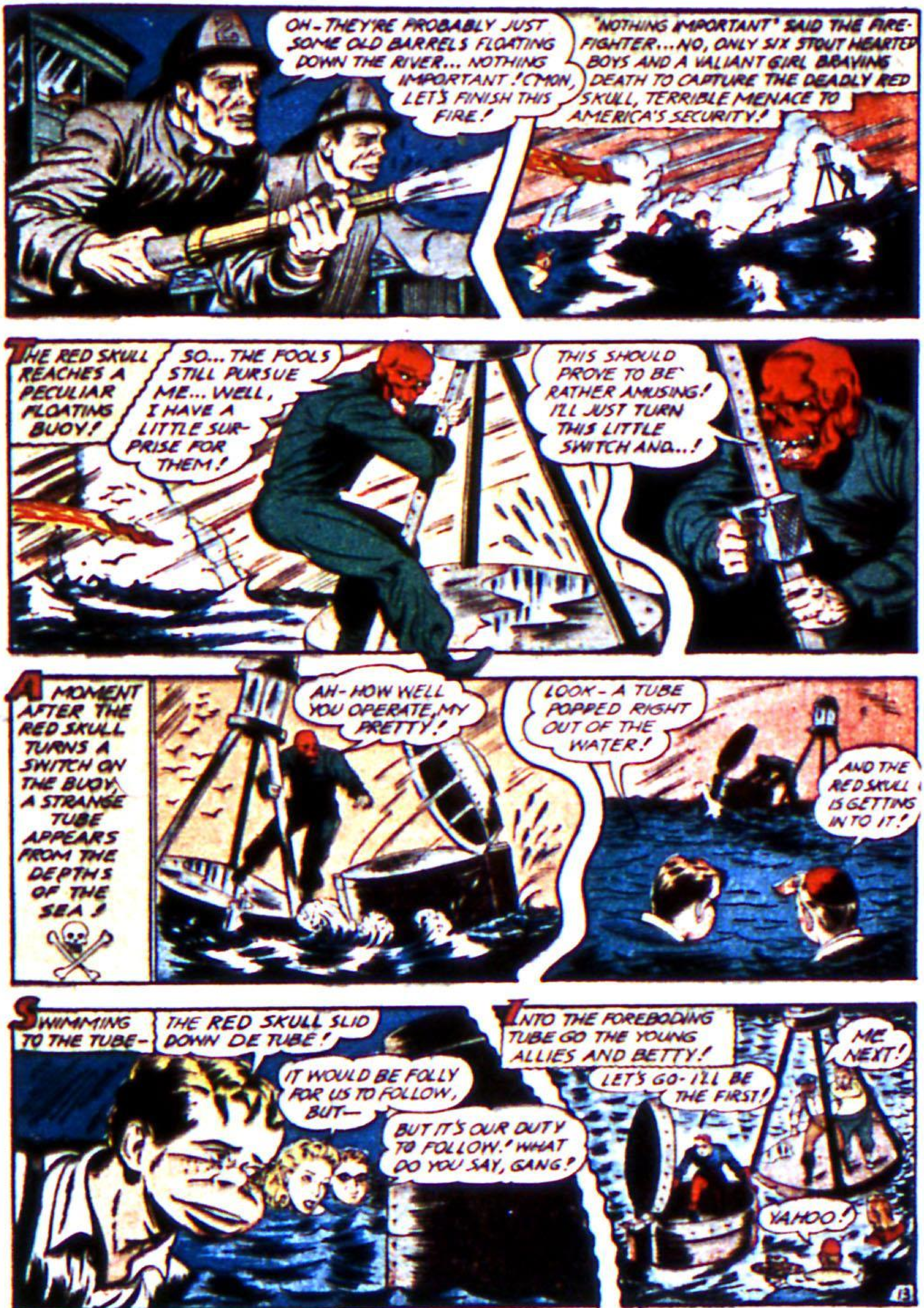

LOOK, A GIRL IN THE WATER ... THE FLAMING OIL ON THE SURFACE IS ALMOST ON TOP OF HER!
HELP!
WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT FOR THEIR OWN SAFETY, THE BOYS DIVE IN TO SAVE THE GIRL!
YAHOO!
HAUL HER TO THE SHIP, WE CAN REST THERE FOR A SECOND AND CATCH OUR BREATHS!
O.K., THEN WE CAN TUG HER TO SHORE!
C'MON FELLAS, WE CAN'T LOSE TIME!
SHE'LL BE ALRIGHT! SHE JUST SWALLOWED SOME WATER!
YOU- YOU BOYS SAVED MY LIFE!
LOOK...IT'S BETTY ROSS!
I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH...
THE GIRL TURNS OUT TO BE BETTY ROSS, FEDERAL AGENT AND FRIEND OF CAPTAIN AMERICA AND THE YOUNG ALLIES!
HOW DOES IT HAPPEN THAT YOU WERE ON THIS BURNING SHIP!
I'VE BEEN TRAILING A NOTORIOUS SABOTEUR AND FOLLOWED HIM TO THE SHIP! THEN THE BOILER BLEW UP AND I WAS HURLED INTO THE WATER!
I FORGOT THE SHIP WAS ON FIRE!
AND WE'D BETTER GET OFF THIS DOOMED SHIP BEFORE WE'RE TRAPPED!
BUT WAIT... WHO WAS THE SABOTEUR YOU WERE TRAILING!

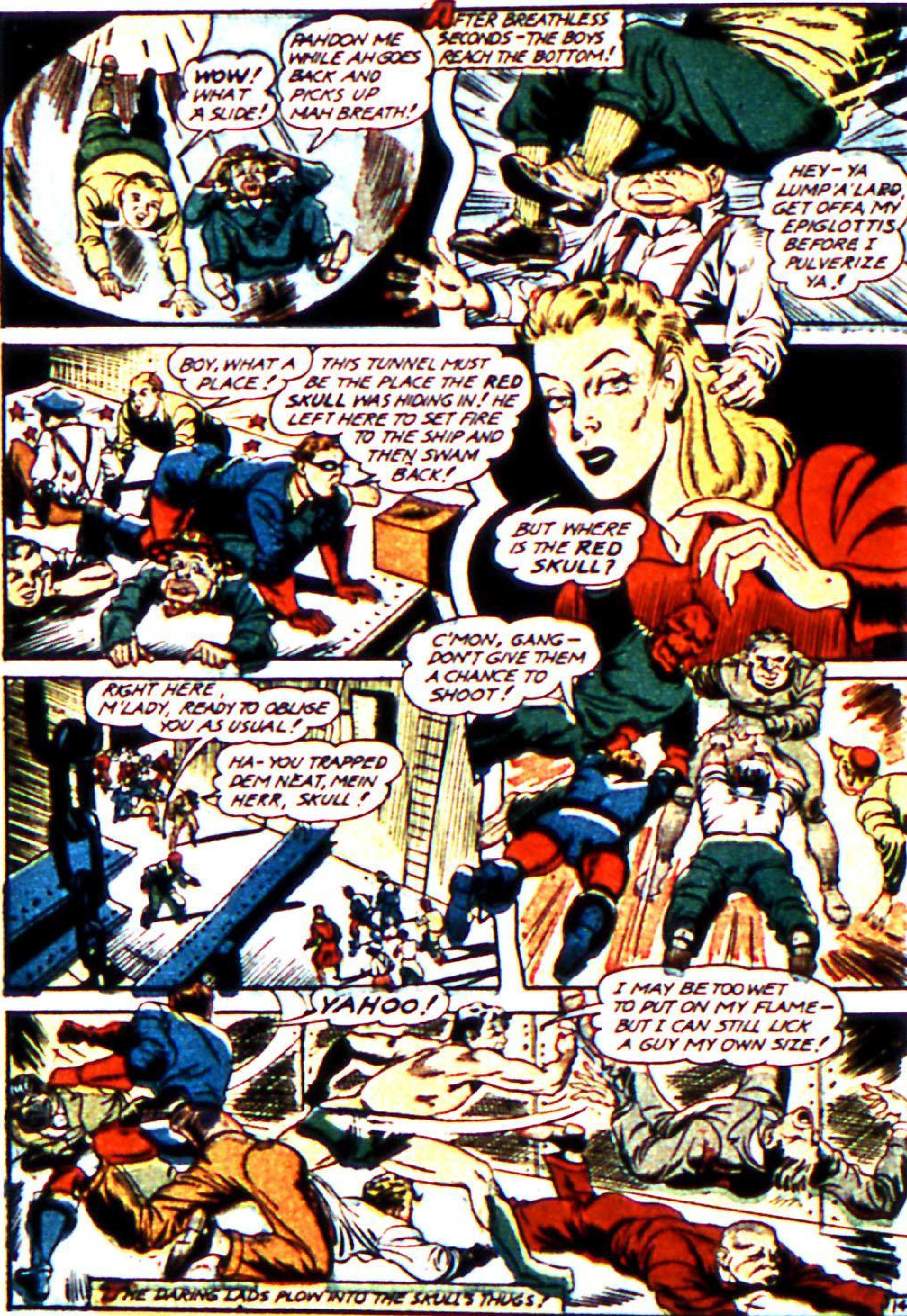

JUST THEN A HARSH VOICE RINGS OUT!
I'LL TELL YOU WHO IT WAS IF YOU'RE SO INTERESTED... HA-HA!
WHA-
NONE OTHER- AT YOUR SERVICE!
THE RED SKULL!
BUT YOU'RE DEAD!
OH NO, I'M NOT! I'M THE GUY WHO SABOTAGED THE SHIP... JUST AS I'LL SABOTAGE THE ENTIRE AMERICAN DEFENSE EFFORT! AND AS LONG AS I HOLD THIS GUN IN MY HAND THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT!
ANGERED BY THE RED SKULLS TAUNTING WORDS, JUST AS ANY AMERICAN KID WOULD BE, KNUCKLE'S LEAPS INTO ACTION...
BANG
YOU DIRTY SPY... TAKE THIS!
FOLLOWED BY THE REST OF THE YOUNG ALLIES!
MOP HIM UP, FELLAS!
AFTER HIM!
YAHOO!
BUT THE RED SKULL BREAKS FREE AND ATTEMPTS TO ESCAPE BY PLUNGING INTO THE CLOUDS OF SMOKE WHICH ENCOMPASS THE DECK!
AFTER HIM... DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!
BUT THE FIRE... WE'LL BE BURN'T ALIVE!
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO TAKE THAT CHANCE... YAHOO!

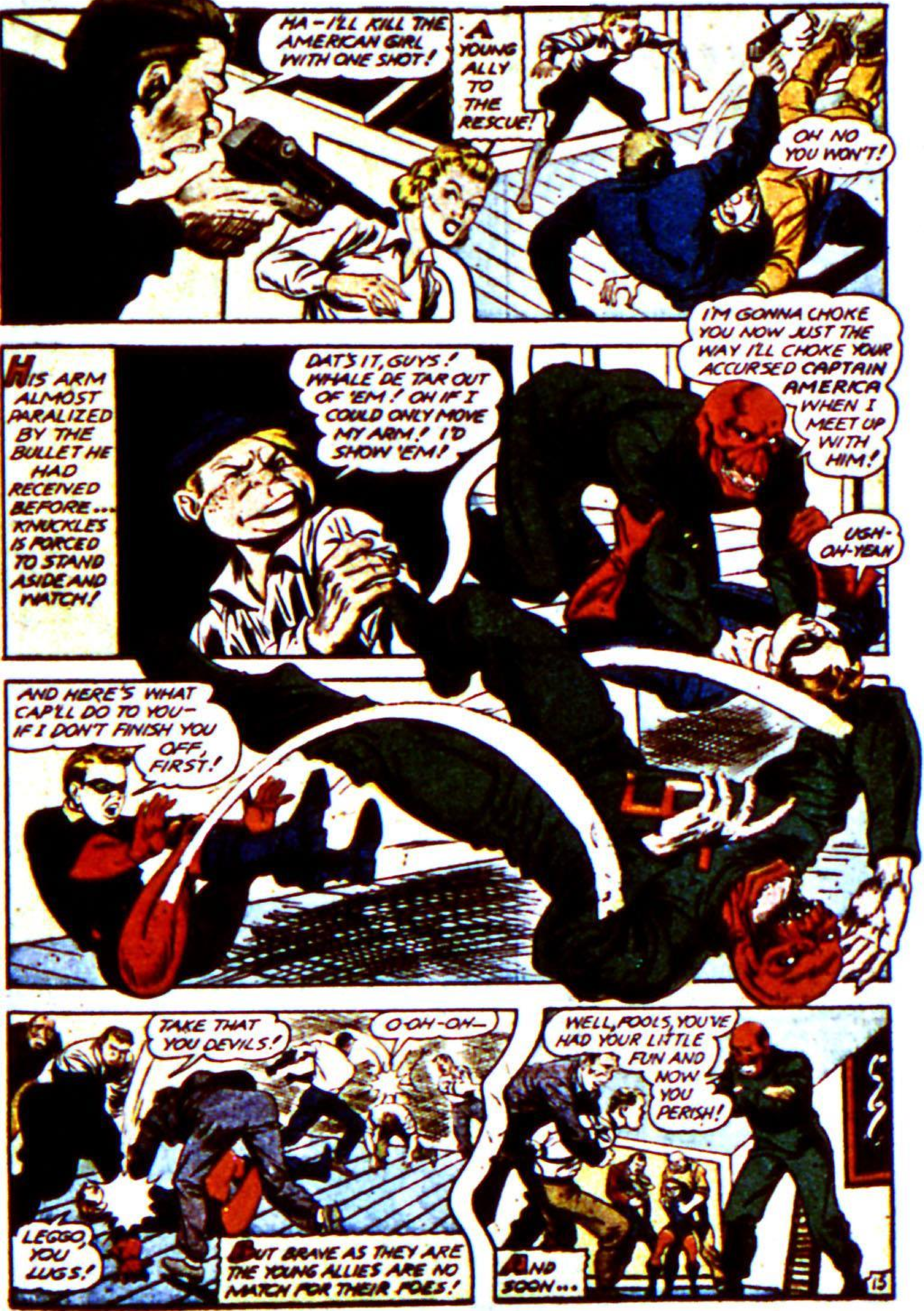

THROUGH THE SMOKE AND FLAMES, THE VALIANT LADS CONTINUE THEIR RELENTLESS SEARCH FOR THE RED SKULL!
HE MUST... (COUGH-COUGH) BE AROUND SOMEWHERE!
HIS SKULL-MASK SERVING TO PROTECT HIM FROM THE CHOKING FUMES OF SMOKE, THE RED-SKULL LURKS IN AMBUSH...
THEY'LL REACH THIS CABIN SOON... THE FOOLS! AND THEN--
IF-IF HE'S NOT HERE WE'LL HAVE TO TURN BACK!
MY LUNGS! AH-AH'M CHOKING!
HOLD-HOLD OUT A LITTLE, (COUGH-COUGH...) LONGER! HE MUST BE HERE SOMEPLACE!
SEARCHING DESPERATELY, REFUSING TO GIVE UP, THE BOYS ENTER THE CABIN OF DOOM!
HE'S NOT HERE! LET'S GO QUICKLY BEFORE-BEFORE.....
I BELIEVE YOU WERE LOOKING FOR ME... WELL NOW YOU'VE FOUND ME! I REGRET THAT I MUST LEAVE YOU NOW... BUT I'M SURE THAT YOU WON'T FIND IT VERY DULL LOCKED IN A FLAMING CABIN!
IT'S THE RED SKULL!
HE'S (COUGH-COUGH) TRAPPED US AGAIN!
AU REVOIR, FOOLS... HA, HA, HA...
KLANK
THE RED SKULL LOCKS THE YOUNG ALLIES AND THE GIRL IN THE FLAMING CABIN!
INSIDE!
LET US OUT! HELP!
TRAPPED!

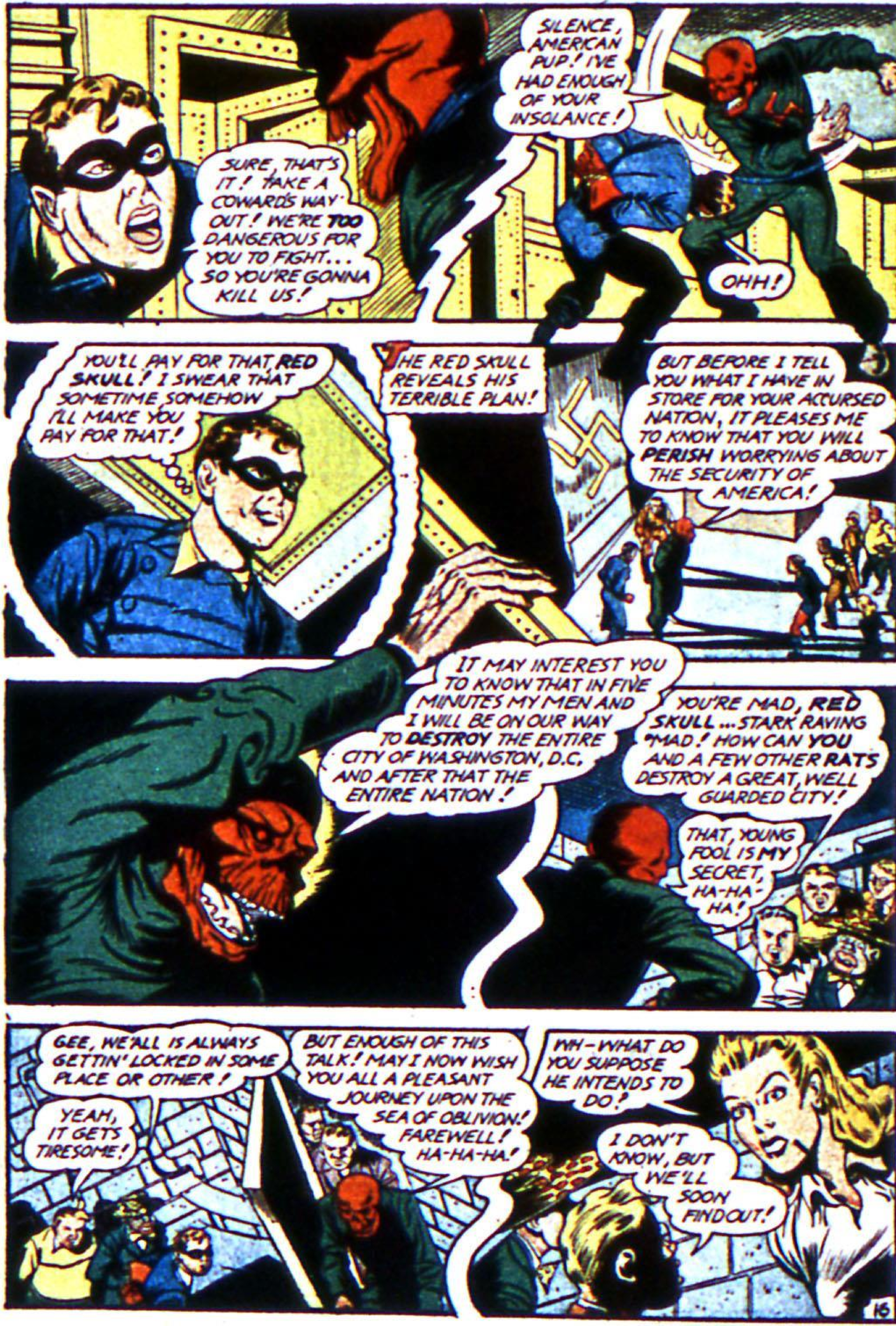

OH... MY HEAD... OHHH!
THERE... THERE... YOU'LL BE O.K.!
THIS SMOKE! IF-IF ONLY I COULD PUT MY FLAME ON! BUT -cough-cough- I'M TOO WET!
Meanwhile, JEFF HAS QUIETLY, STEADILY BEEN PRYING THE LOCK ON THE DOOR WITH ONE OF THE LITTLE POCKET TOOLS WHICH HE ALWAYS CARRIES WITH HIM!
I'VE GOT TO KEEP ON! cough-cough... IF I QUIT NOW... WE'LL ALL PERISH, I MUSTN'T FAIL!
JUST A LITTLE... cough-cough... LITTLE MORE!
JEFF SUCCEEDS!
THERE!
LOOK! JEFF BROKE THE DOOR LOCK! WE-WE'RE FREE!
AIR-AIR!
THIS AIR SHO IS BREATHABLE!
I NEVER REALIZED HOW MUCH FUN IT WAS TO BREATHE BEFORE!
THE FIRE IS ALMOST ON TOP OF US! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
WE'VE GOT TO FIND THE RED SKULL, HE MUSTN'T ESCAPE!
SUDDENLY...
THERE HE IS! I SEE THE RED SKULL!

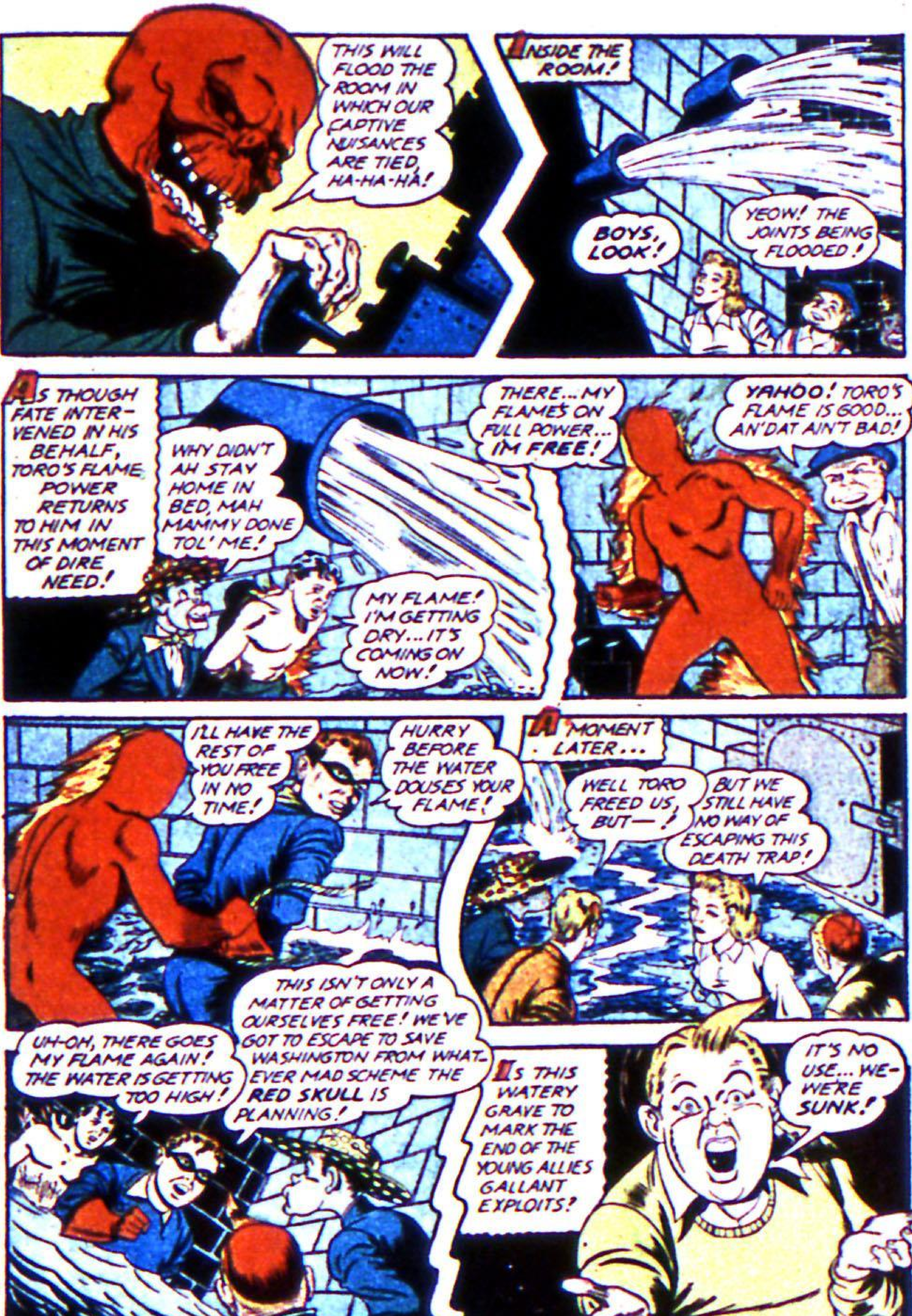

LET'S GO...WE'LL GET THAT RAT THIS TIME!
WHAT THE...! THOSE BRATS AND THAT GIRL ARE STILL ALIVE! HA, I'LL FINISH THEM OFF NOW FOR GOOD!
IF FLAMES CAN'T STOP THEM... BULLETS WILL! IT'S A GOOD THING MY LUGER IS WATER PROOF!
BANG! BANG!
SEEING THE RED SKULL FIRE TOWARD BETTY ROSS, KNUCKLES SWIMS TO HER AID!
LOOK OUT, MISS ROSS!
I'LL SHIELD YOU...I'LL... UGH...
KNUCKLES!
THE BULLET INTENDED FOR THE GIRL STRIKES KNUCKLES IN THE SHOULDER INSTEAD!
KNUCKLES... YOU'RE WOUNDED!
DON'T MIND ME! WHAT'CHA TINK I AM, A SISSY? I CAN STILL SWIM! LET'S GET DAT GUY! C'MON!
MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE DOCK, THE FIRE DEPT SWINGS INTO ACTION!
WELL IT LOOKS LIKE THE BLAZE IS UNDER CONTROL!
YEAH! SAY, LOOK OVER THERE-WHAT ARE THOSE THINGS FLOATING AROUND IN THE WATER?

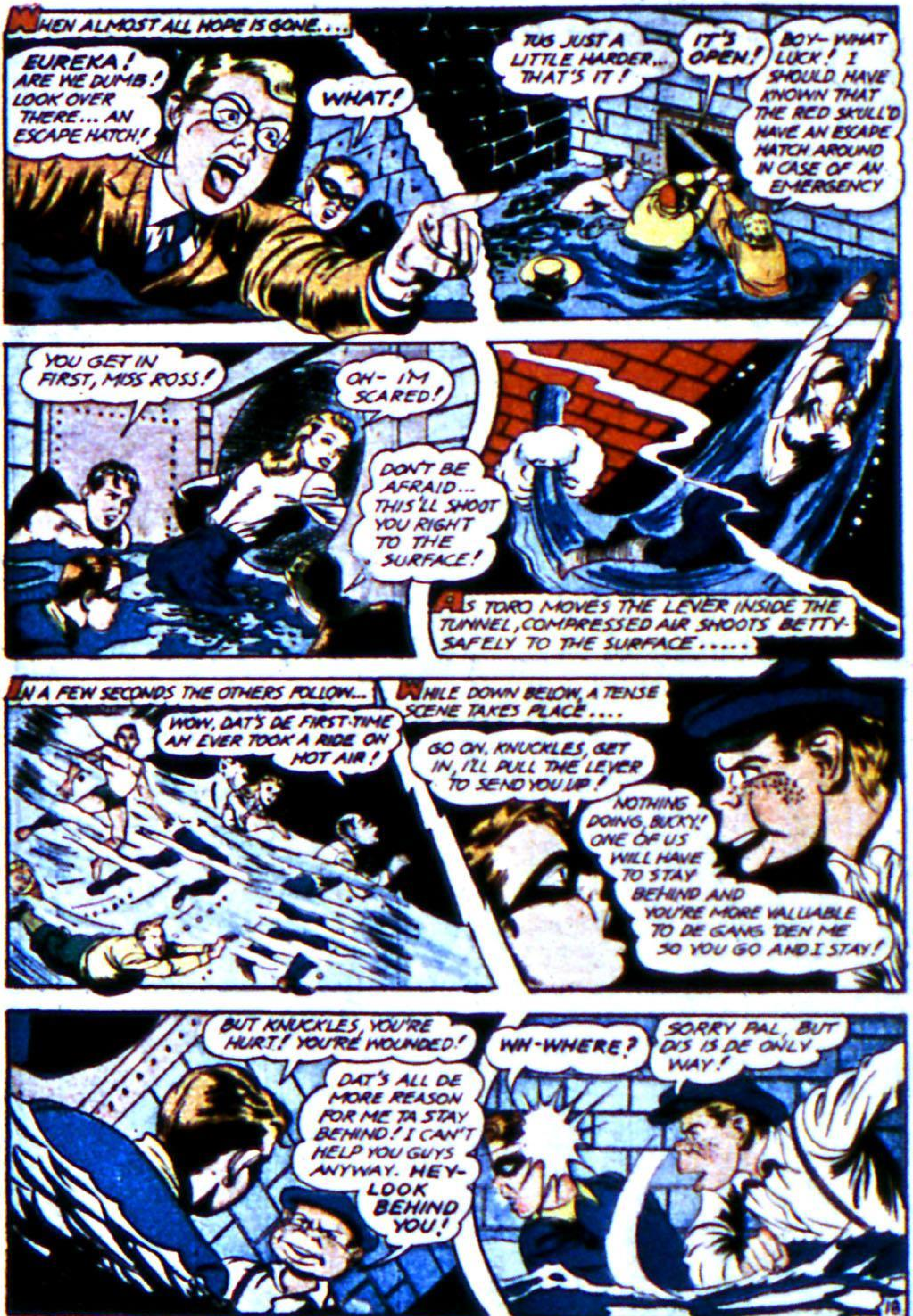

OH-THEY'RE PROBABLY JUST SOME OLD BARRELS FLOATING DOWN THE RIVER... NOTHING IMPORTANT! C'MON, LET'S FINISH THIS FIRE!
'NOTHING IMPORTANT' SAID THE FIRE-FIGHTER...NO, ONLY SIX STOUT HEARTED BOYS AND A VALIANT GIRL BRAVING DEATH TO CAPTURE THE DEADLY RED SKULL, TERRIBLE MENACE TO AMERICA'S SECURITY!
THE RED SKULL REACHES A PECULIAR FLOATING BUOY!
SO... THE FOOLS STILL PURSUE ME... WELL, I HAVE A LITTLE SURPRISE FOR THEM!
THIS SHOULD PROVE TO BE RATHER AMUSING! I'LL JUST TURN THIS LITTLE SWITCH AND...!
A MOMENT AFTER THE RED SKULL TURNS A SWITCH ON THE BUOY, A STRANGE TUBE APPEARS FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE SEA!
AH- HOW WELL YOU OPERATE, MY PRETTY!
LOOK- A TUBE POPPED RIGHT OUT OF THE WATER!
AND THE RED SKULL IS GETTING INTO IT!
SWIMMING TO THE TUBE-
THE RED SKULL SLID DOWN DE TUBE!
IT WOULD BE FOLLY FOR US TO FOLLOW, BUT—
BUT IT'S OUR DUTY TO FOLLOW! WHAT DO YOU SAY, GANG!
INTO THE FOREBODING TUBE GO THE YOUNG ALLIES AND BETTY!
ME NEXT!
LET'S GO- I'LL BE THE FIRST!
YAHOO!

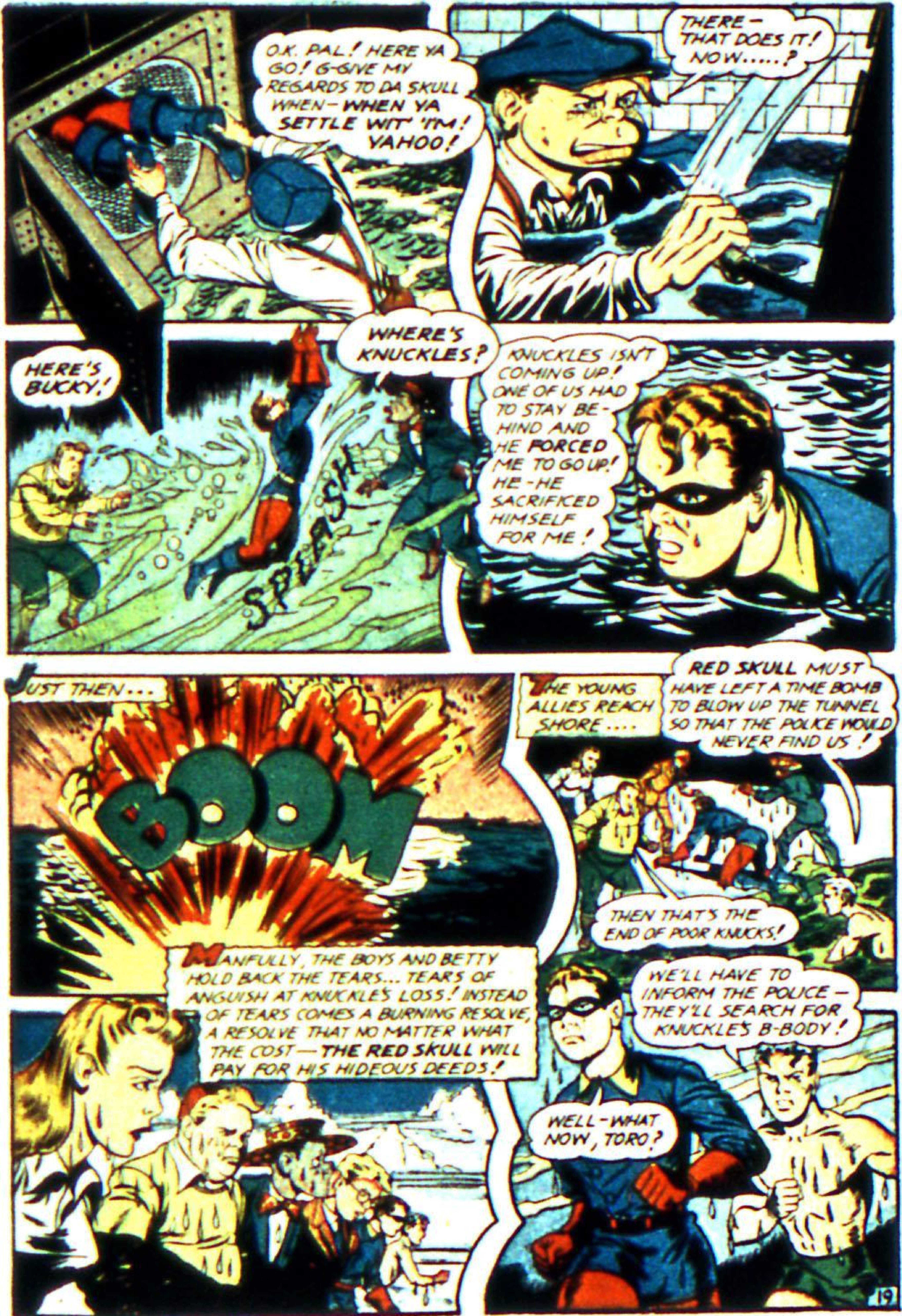

WOW! WHAT A SLIDE!
PAHDON ME WHILE AH GOES BACK AND PICKS UP MAH BREATH!
AFTER BREATHLESS SECONDS–THE BOYS REACH THE BOTTOM!
HEY–YA LUMP'A'LARD, GET OFFA MY EPIGLOTTIS BEFORE I PULVERIZE YA!
BOY, WHAT A PLACE!
THIS TUNNEL MUST BE THE PLACE THE RED SKULL WAS HIDING IN! HE LEFT HERE TO SET FIRE TO THE SHIP AND THEN SWAM BACK!
BUT WHERE IS THE RED SKULL?
RIGHT HERE, M'LADY, READY TO OBLIGE YOU AS USUAL!
HA–YOU TRAPPED DEM NEAT, MEIN HERR, SKULL!
C'MON, GANG–DON'T GIVE THEM A CHANCE TO SHOOT!
YAHOO!
I MAY BE TOO WET TO PUT ON MY FLAME–BUT I CAN STILL LICK A GUY MY OWN SIZE!
THE DARING LADS PLOW INTO THE SKULL'S THUGS!

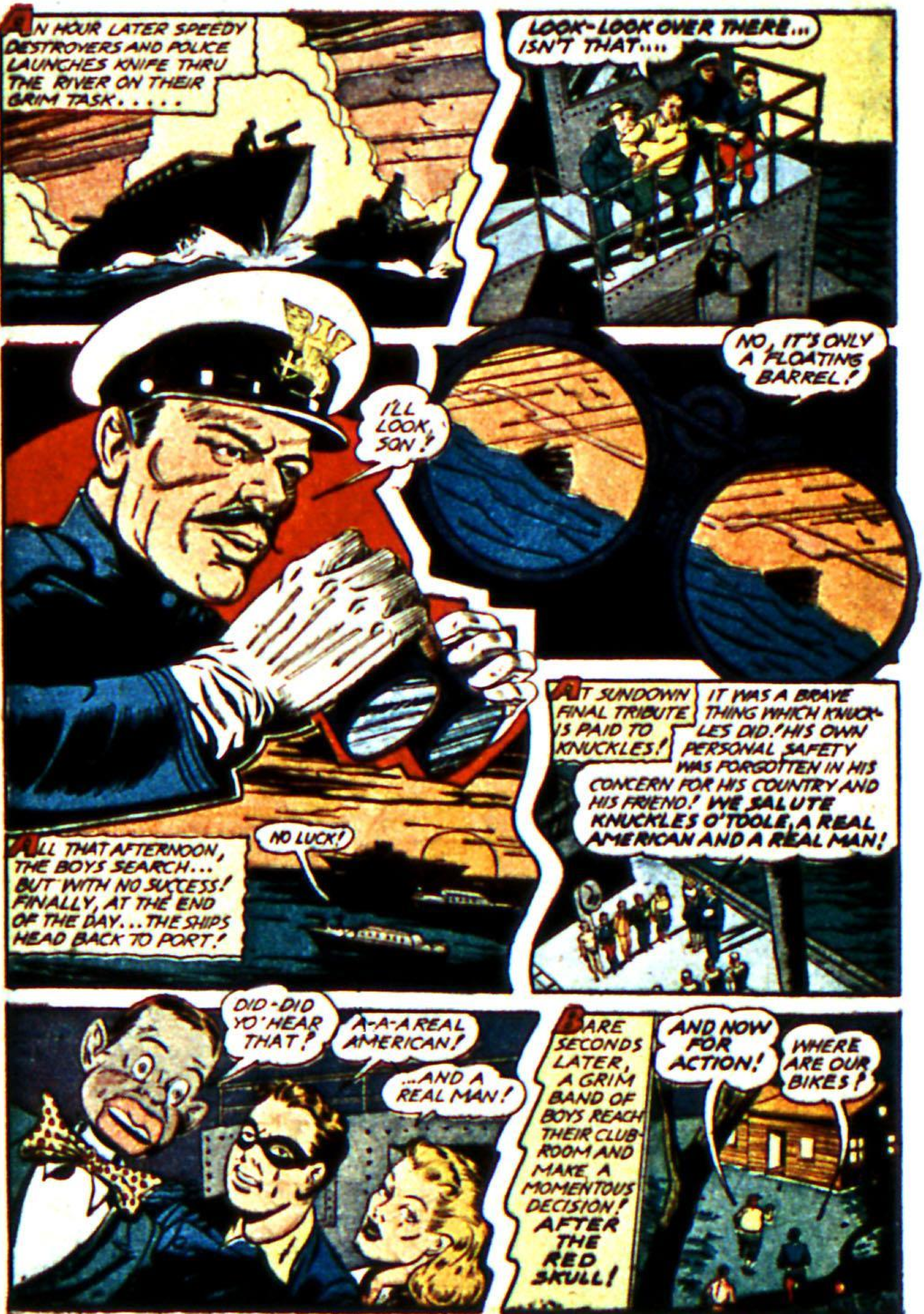

HA—I'LL KILL THE AMERICAN GIRL WITH ONE SHOT!
A YOUNG ALLY TO THE RESCUE!
OH NO YOU WON'T!
HIS ARM ALMOST PARALIZED BY THE BULLET HE HAD RECEIVED BEFORE... KNUCKLES IS FORCED TO STAND ASIDE AND WATCH!
DAT'S IT, GUYS! WHALE DE TAR OUT OF 'EM! OH IF I COULD ONLY MOVE MY ARM! I'D SHOW 'EM!
I'M GONNA CHOKE YOU NOW JUST THE WAY I'LL CHOKE YOUR ACCURSED CAPTAIN AMERICA WHEN I MEET UP WITH HIM!
UGH-OH-YEAH
AND HERE'S WHAT CAP'LL DO TO YOU— IF I DON'T FINISH YOU OFF, FIRST!
TAKE THAT YOU DEVILS!
O-OH-OH—
LEGGO, YOU LUGS!
BUT BRAVE AS THEY ARE THE YOUNG ALLIES ARE NO MATCH FOR THEIR FOES!
WELL, FOOLS, YOU'VE HAD YOUR LITTLE FUN AND NOW YOU PERISH!
AND SOON...

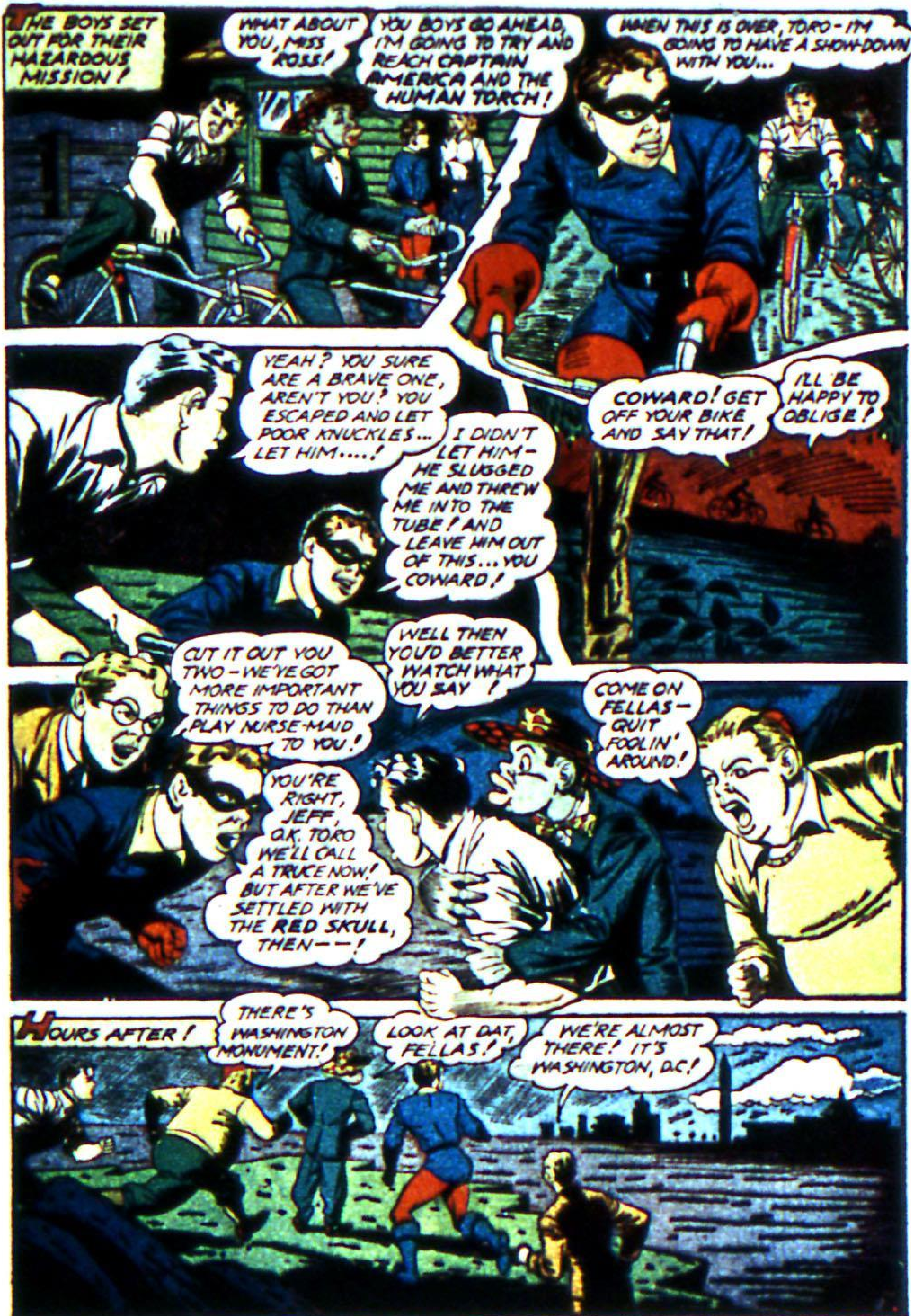

SURE, THAT'S IT! TAKE A COWARD'S WAY OUT! WE'RE **TOO** DANGEROUS FOR YOU TO FIGHT... SO YOU'RE GONNA KILL US!
SILENCE, AMERICAN PUP! I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR INSOLANCE!
OHH!
YOU'LL PAY FOR THAT, **RED SKULL**! I SWEAR THAT SOMETIME, SOMEHOW I'LL MAKE YOU PAY FOR THAT!
THE RED SKULL REVEALS HIS TERRIBLE PLAN!
BUT BEFORE I TELL YOU WHAT I HAVE IN STORE FOR YOUR ACCURSED NATION, IT PLEASES ME TO KNOW THAT YOU WILL **PERISH** WORRYING ABOUT THE SECURITY OF AMERICA!
IT MAY INTEREST YOU TO KNOW THAT IN FIVE MINUTES MY MEN AND I WILL BE ON OUR WAY TO **DESTROY** THE ENTIRE CITY OF WASHINGTON, D.C. AND AFTER THAT THE ENTIRE NATION!
YOU'RE MAD, **RED SKULL**... STARK RAVING MAD! HOW CAN **YOU** AND A FEW OTHER **RATS** DESTROY A GREAT, WELL GUARDED CITY!
THAT, YOUNG FOOL IS **MY** SECRET, HA-HA-HA!
GEE, WE'ALL IS ALWAYS GETTIN' LOCKED IN SOME PLACE OR OTHER!
YEAH, IT GETS TIRESOME!
BUT ENOUGH OF THIS TALK! MAY I NOW WISH YOU ALL A PLEASANT JOURNEY UPON THE SEA OF OBLIVION! FAREWELL! HA-HA-HA!
WH-WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE HE INTENDS TO DO?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT WE'LL SOON FIND OUT!

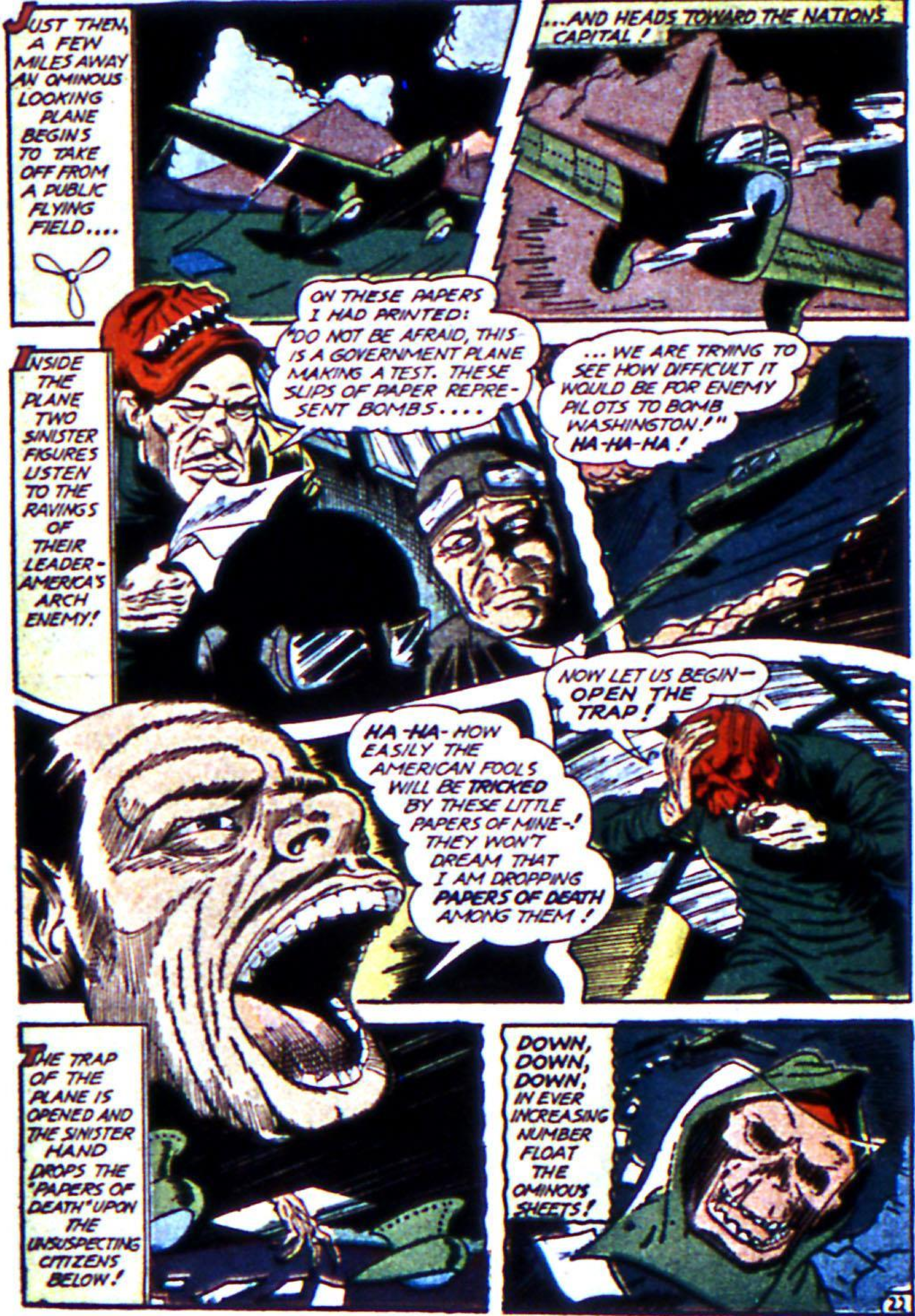

THIS WILL FLOOD THE ROOM IN WHICH OUR CAPTIVE NUISANCES ARE TIED, HA-HA-HA!
INSIDE THE ROOM!
BOYS, LOOK!
YEOW! THE JOINTS BEING FLOODED!
AS THOUGH FATE INTERVENED IN HIS BEHALF, TORO'S FLAME POWER RETURNS TO HIM IN THIS MOMENT OF DIRE NEED!
WHY DIDN'T AH STAY HOME IN BED, MAH MAMMY DONE TOL' ME!
MY FLAME! I'M GETTING DRY... IT'S COMING ON NOW!
THERE... MY FLAME'S ON FULL POWER... I'M FREE!
YAHOO! TORO'S FLAME IS GOOD... AN' DAT AIN'T BAD!
I'LL HAVE THE REST OF YOU FREE IN NO TIME!
HURRY BEFORE THE WATER DOUSES YOUR FLAME!
A MOMENT LATER...
WELL TORO FREED US, BUT—!
BUT WE STILL HAVE NO WAY OF ESCAPING THIS DEATH TRAP!
UH-OH, THERE GOES MY FLAME AGAIN! THE WATER IS GETTING TOO HIGH!
THIS ISN'T ONLY A MATTER OF GETTING OURSELVES FREE! WE'VE GOT TO ESCAPE TO SAVE WASHINGTON FROM WHATEVER MAD SCHEME THE RED SKULL IS PLANNING!
IS THIS WATERY GRAVE TO MARK THE END OF THE YOUNG ALLIES GALLANT EXPLOITS?
IT'S NO USE... WE-WE'RE SUNK!

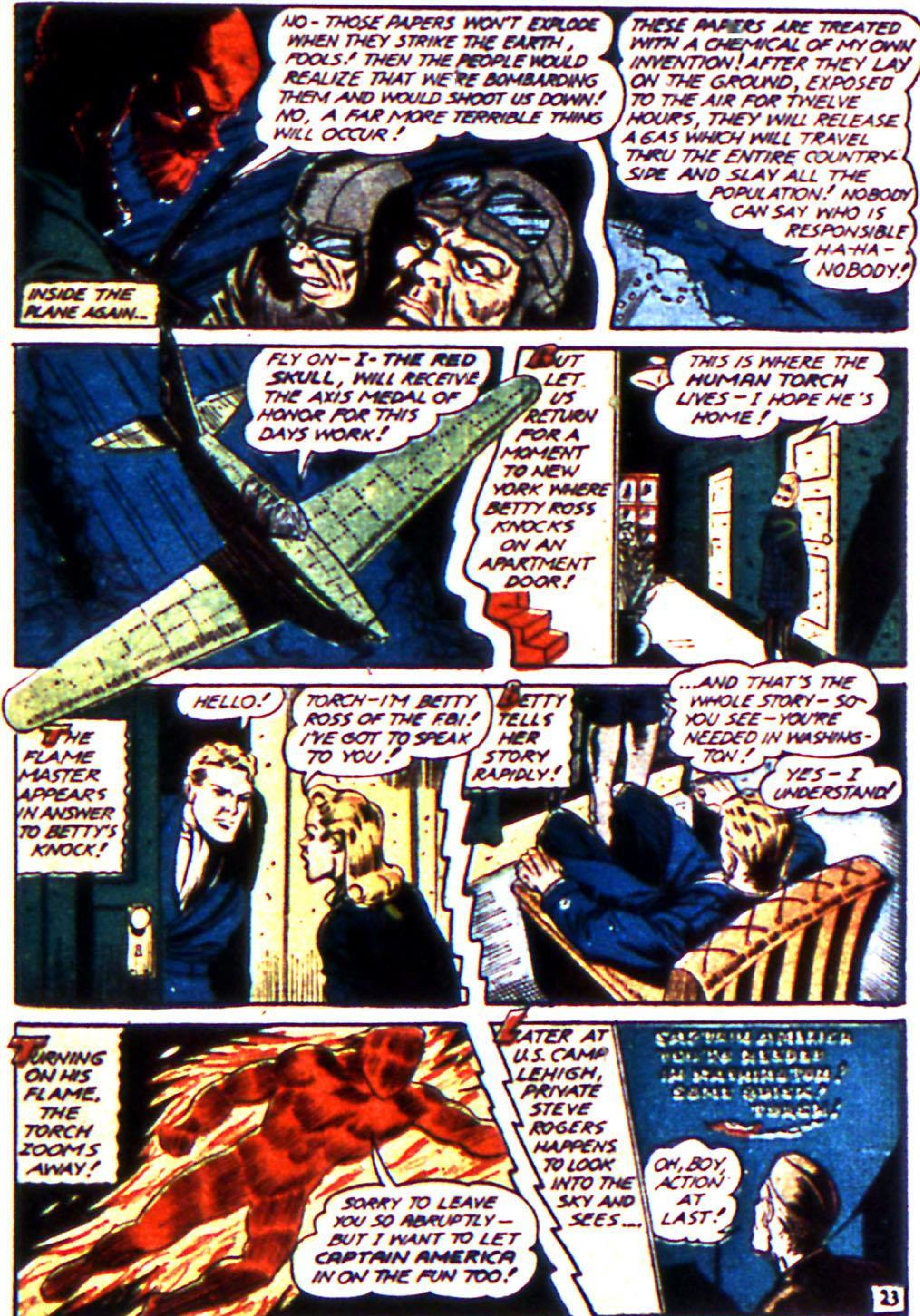

WHEN ALMOST ALL HOPE IS GONE....
EUREKA! ARE WE DUMB! LOOK OVER THERE... AN ESCAPE HATCH!
WHAT!
TUG JUST A LITTLE HARDER... THAT'S IT!
IT'S OPEN!
BOY—WHAT LUCK! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT THE RED SKULL'D HAVE AN ESCAPE HATCH AROUND IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY
YOU GET IN FIRST, MISS ROSS!
OH—I'M SCARED!
DON'T BE AFRAID... THIS'LL SHOOT YOU RIGHT TO THE SURFACE!
AS TORO MOVES THE LEVER INSIDE THE TUNNEL, COMPRESSED AIR SHOOTS BETTY SAFELY TO THE SURFACE.....
IN A FEW SECONDS THE OTHERS FOLLOW...
WOW, DAT'S DE FIRST TIME AH EVER TOOK A RIDE ON HOT AIR!
WHILE DOWN BELOW, A TENSE SCENE TAKES PLACE....
GO ON, KNUCKLES, GET IN, I'LL PULL THE LEVER TO SEND YOU UP!
NOTHING DOING, BUCKY! ONE OF US WILL HAVE TO STAY BEHIND AND YOU'RE MORE VALUABLE TO DE GANG 'DEN ME SO YOU GO AND I STAY!
BUT KNUCKLES, YOU'RE HURT! YOU'RE WOUNDED!
DAT'S ALL DE MORE REASON FOR ME TA STAY BEHIND! I CAN'T HELP YOU GUYS ANYWAY. HEY-LOOK BEHIND YOU!
WH-WHERE?
SORRY PAL, BUT DIS IS DE ONLY WAY!

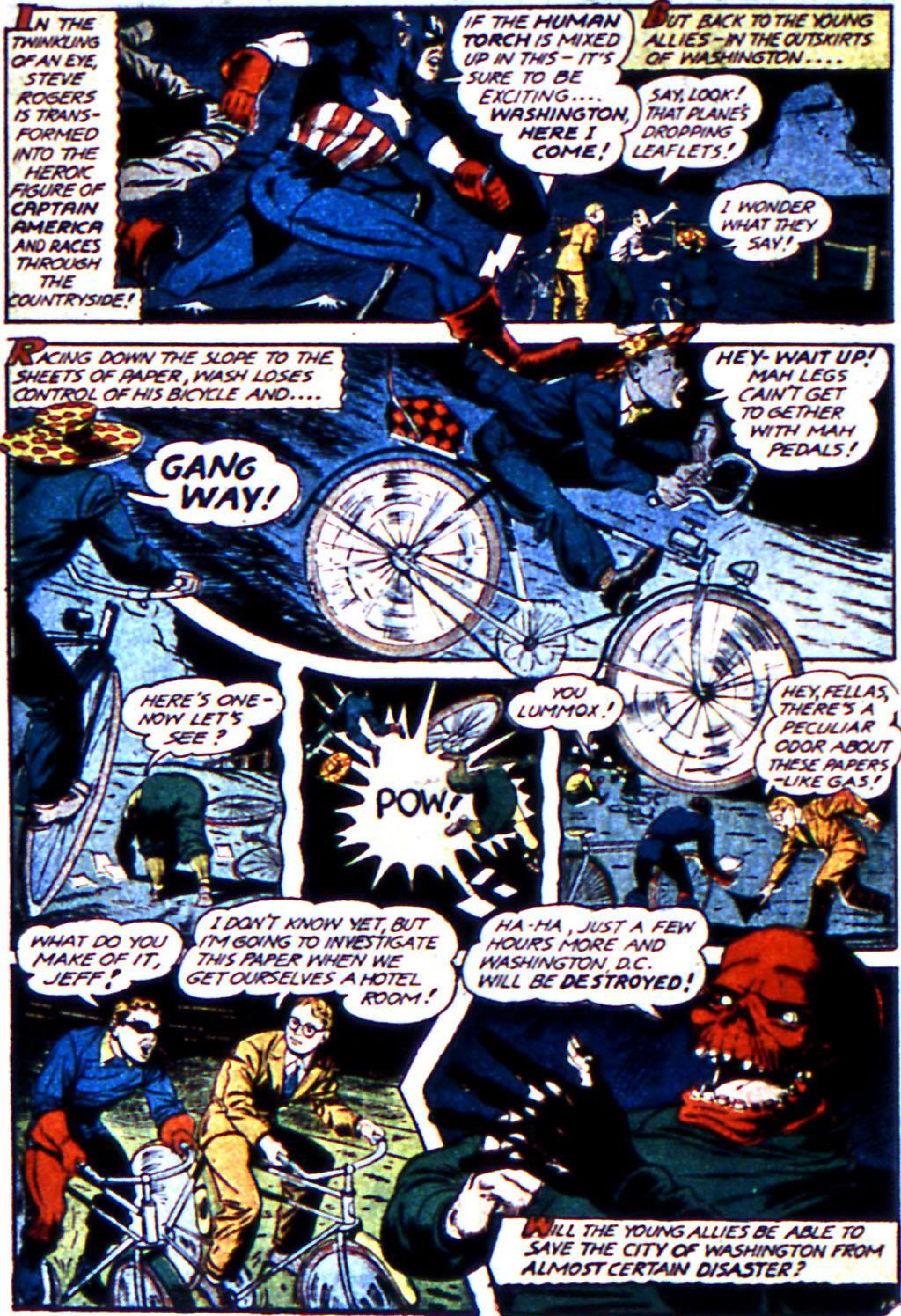

O.K. PAL! HERE YA GO! G-GIVE MY REGARDS TO DA SKULL WHEN- WHEN YA SETTLE WIT' 'IM! YAHOO!
THERE- THAT DOES IT! NOW.....?
HERE'S BUCKY!
WHERE'S KNUCKLES?
SPEESH
KNUCKLES ISN'T COMING UP! ONE OF US HAD TO STAY BEHIND AND HE FORCED ME TO GO UP! HE-HE SACRIFICED HIMSELF FOR ME!
JUST THEN...
BOOM
THE YOUNG ALLIES REACH SHORE....
RED SKULL MUST HAVE LEFT A TIME BOMB TO BLOW UP THE TUNNEL SO THAT THE POLICE WOULD NEVER FIND US!
THEN THAT'S THE END OF POOR KNUCKS!
MANFULLY, THE BOYS AND BETTY HOLD BACK THE TEARS... TEARS OF ANGUISH AT KNUCKLE'S LOSS! INSTEAD OF TEARS COMES A BURNING RESOLVE, A RESOLVE THAT NO MATTER WHAT THE COST—THE RED SKULL WILL PAY FOR HIS HIDEOUS DEEDS!
WE'LL HAVE TO INFORM THE POLICE- THEY'LL SEARCH FOR KNUCKLE'S B-BODY!
WELL-WHAT NOW, TORO?

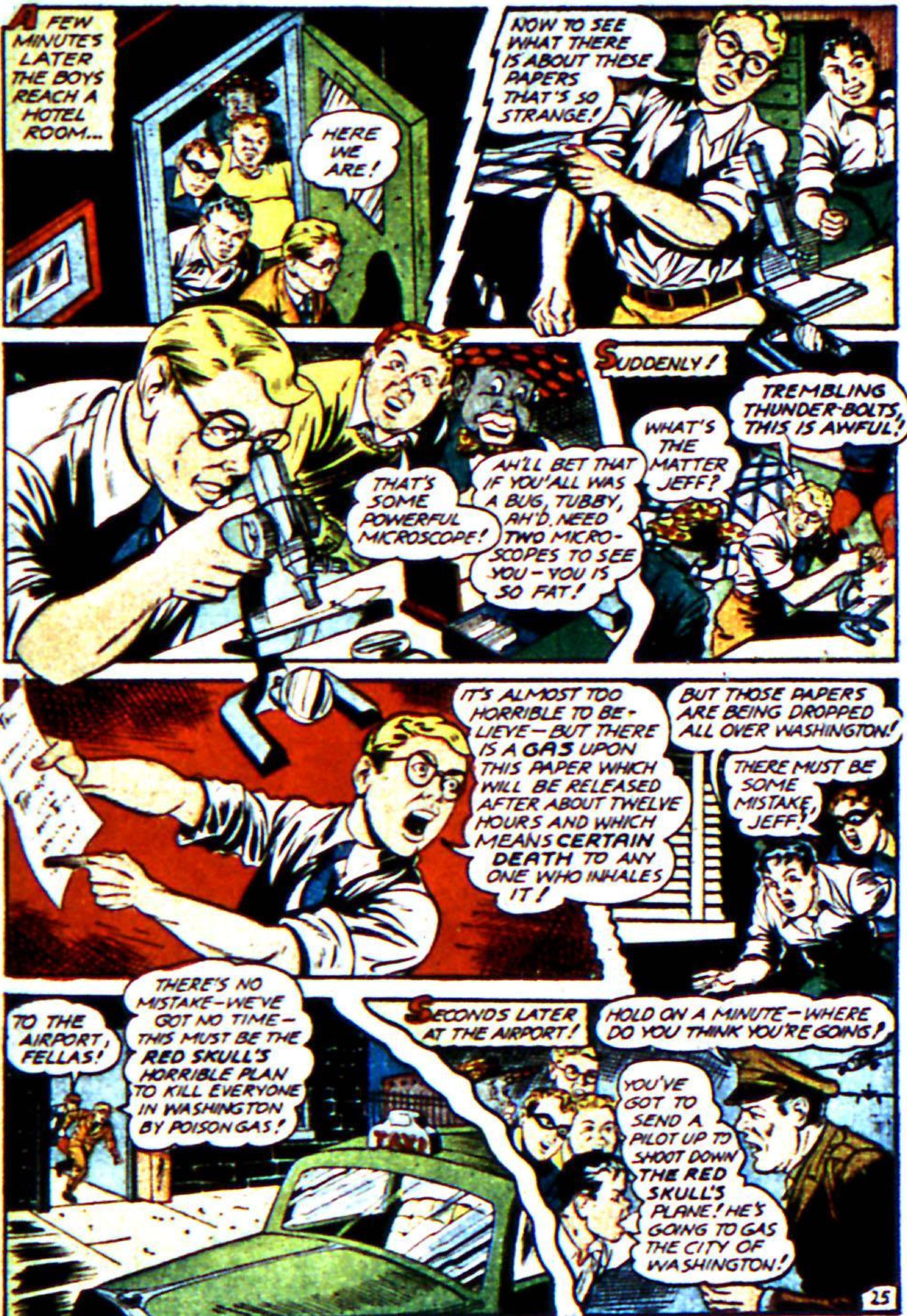

AN HOUR LATER SPEEDY DESTROYERS AND POLICE LAUNCHES KNIFE THRU THE RIVER ON THEIR GRIM TASK.....
LOOK-LOOK OVER THERE... ISN'T THAT....
I'LL LOOK, SON!
NO, IT'S ONLY A FLOATING BARREL!
ALL THAT AFTERNOON, THE BOYS SEARCH... BUT WITH NO SUCCESS! FINALLY, AT THE END OF THE DAY... THE SHIPS HEAD BACK TO PORT!
NO LUCK!
AT SUNDOWN FINAL TRIBUTE IS PAID TO KNUCKLES!
IT WAS A BRAVE THING WHICH KNUCKLES DID! HIS OWN PERSONAL SAFETY WAS FORGOTTEN IN HIS CONCERN FOR HIS COUNTRY AND HIS FRIEND! WE SALUTE KNUCKLES O'TOOLE, A REAL AMERICAN AND A REAL MAN!
DID-DID YO' HEAR THAT?
A-A-A REAL AMERICAN!
...AND A REAL MAN!
BARE SECONDS LATER, A GRIM BAND OF BOYS REACH THEIR CLUB ROOM AND MAKE A MOMENTOUS DECISION! AFTER THE RED SKULL!
AND NOW FOR ACTION!
WHERE ARE OUR BIKES?

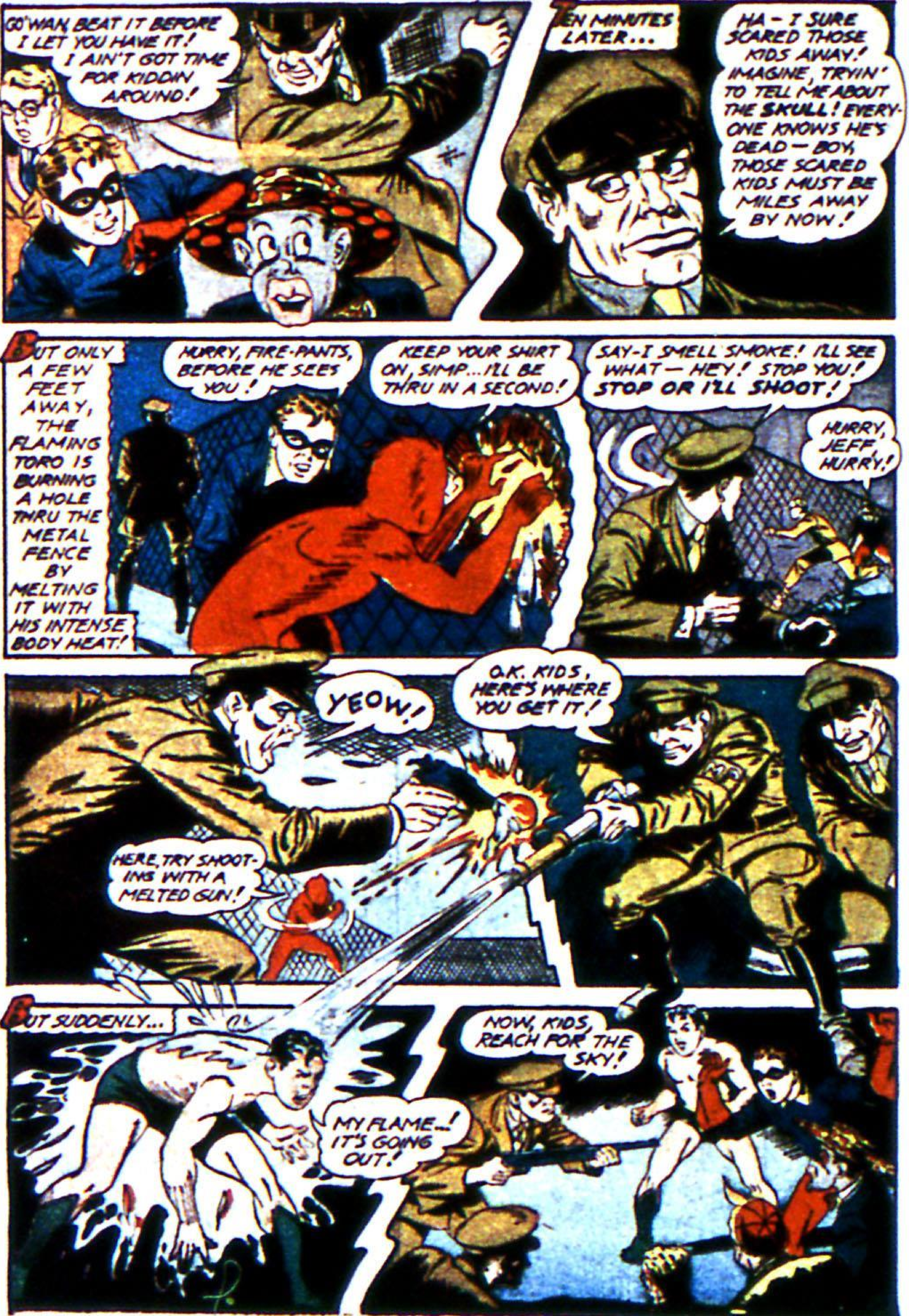

THE BOYS SET OUT FOR THEIR HAZARDOUS MISSION!
WHAT ABOUT YOU, MISS ROSS!
YOU BOYS GO AHEAD, I'M GOING TO TRY AND REACH CAPTAIN AMERICA AND THE HUMAN TORCH!
WHEN THIS IS OVER, TORO- I'M GOING TO HAVE A SHOW-DOWN WITH YOU...
YEAH? YOU SURE ARE A BRAVE ONE, AREN'T YOU? YOU ESCAPED AND LET POOR KNUCKLES... LET HIM....!
I DIDN'T LET HIM- HE SLUGGED ME AND THREW ME INTO THE TUBE! AND LEAVE HIM OUT OF THIS... YOU COWARD!
COWARD! GET OFF YOUR BIKE AND SAY THAT!
I'LL BE HAPPY TO OBLIGE!
CUT IT OUT YOU TWO- WE'VE GOT MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO THAN PLAY NURSE-MAID TO YOU!
WELL THEN YOU'D BETTER WATCH WHAT YOU SAY!
YOU'RE RIGHT, JEFF, O.K. TORO WE'LL CALL A TRUCE NOW! BUT AFTER WE'VE SETTLED WITH THE RED SKULL, THEN--!
COME ON FELLAS- QUIT FOOLIN' AROUND!
HOURS AFTER!
THERE'S WASHINGTON MONUMENT!
LOOK AT DAT, FELLAS!
WE'RE ALMOST THERE! IT'S WASHINGTON, D.C.!

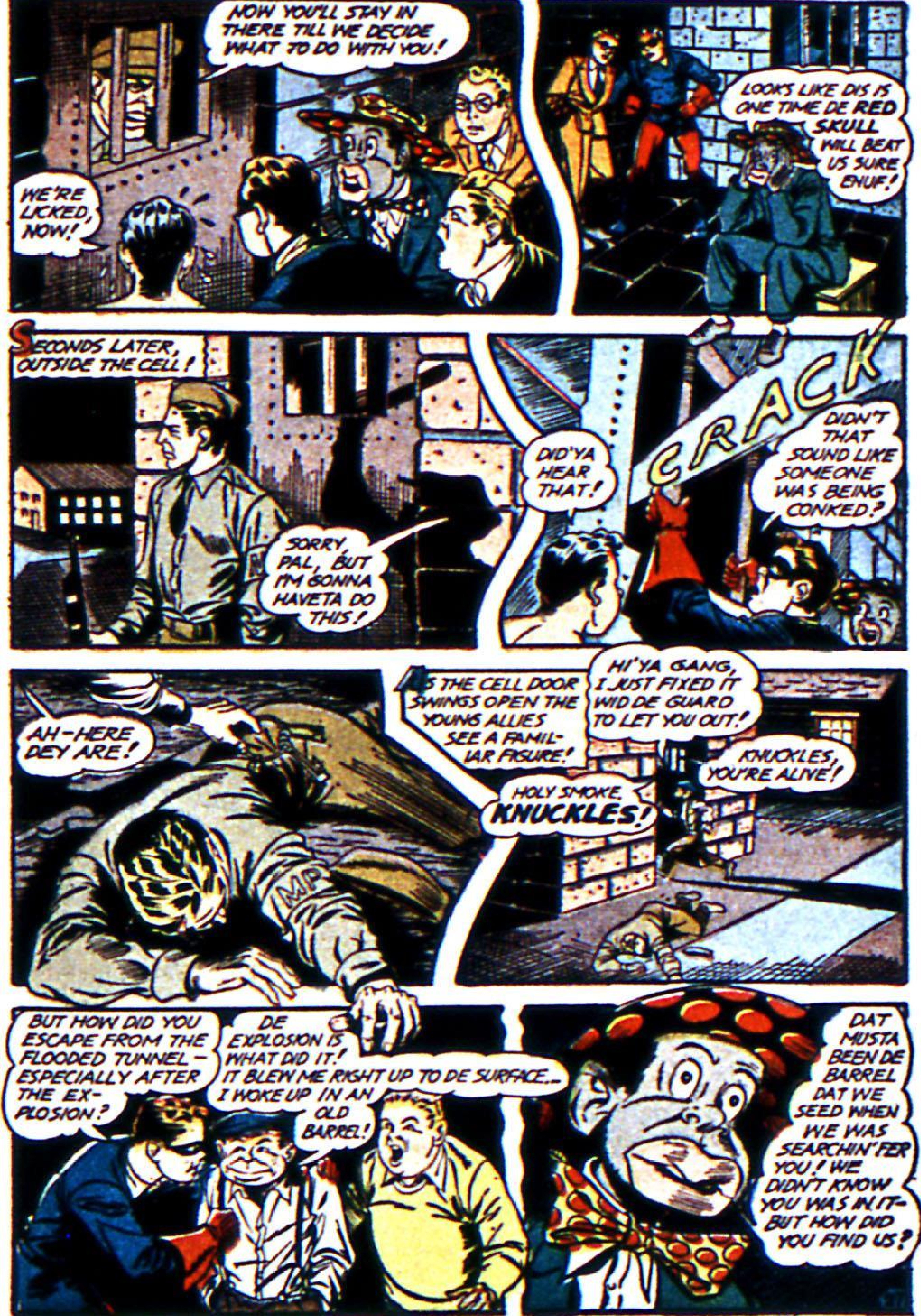

JUST THEN, A FEW MILES AWAY AN OMINOUS LOOKING PLANE BEGINS TO TAKE OFF FROM A PUBLIC FLYING FIELD....
...AND HEADS TOWARD THE NATION'S CAPITAL!
INSIDE THE PLANE TWO SINISTER FIGURES LISTEN TO THE RAVINGS OF THEIR LEADER - AMERICA'S ARCH ENEMY!
ON THESE PAPERS I HAD PRINTED: "DO NOT BE AFRAID, THIS IS A GOVERNMENT PLANE MAKING A TEST. THESE SLIPS OF PAPER REPRESENT BOMBS....
...WE ARE TRYING TO SEE HOW DIFFICULT IT WOULD BE FOR ENEMY PILOTS TO BOMB WASHINGTON!" HA-HA-HA!
NOW LET US BEGIN - OPEN THE TRAP!
HA-HA- HOW EASILY THE AMERICAN FOOLS WILL BE TRICKED BY THESE LITTLE PAPERS OF MINE-! THEY WON'T DREAM THAT I AM DROPPING PAPERS OF DEATH AMONG THEM!
THE TRAP OF THE PLANE IS OPENED AND THE SINISTER HAND DROPS THE "PAPERS OF DEATH" UPON THE UNSUSPECTING CITIZENS BELOW!
DOWN, DOWN, DOWN, IN EVER INCREASING NUMBER FLOAT THE OMINOUS SHEETS!

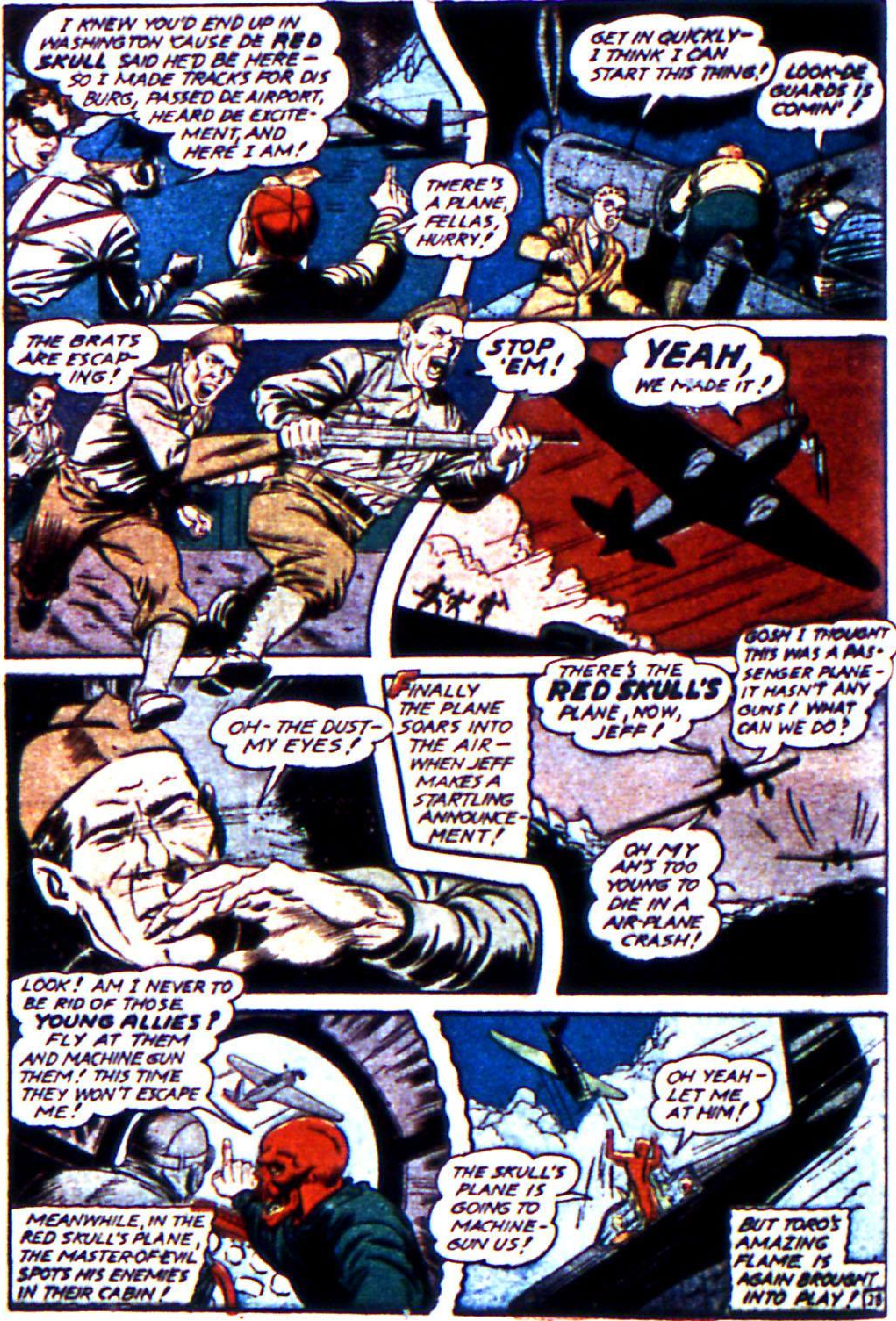

NO - THOSE PAPERS WON'T EXPLODE WHEN THEY STRIKE THE EARTH, FOOLS! THEN THE PEOPLE WOULD REALIZE THAT WE'RE BOMBARDING THEM AND WOULD SHOOT US DOWN! NO, A FAR MORE TERRIBLE THING WILL OCCUR!
THESE PAPERS ARE TREATED WITH A CHEMICAL OF MY OWN INVENTION! AFTER THEY LAY ON THE GROUND, EXPOSED TO THE AIR FOR TWELVE HOURS, THEY WILL RELEASE A GAS WHICH WILL TRAVEL THRU THE ENTIRE COUNTRYSIDE AND SLAY ALL THE POPULATION! NOBODY CAN SAY WHO IS RESPONSIBLE HA-HA- NOBODY!
INSIDE THE PLANE AGAIN...
FLY ON - I - THE RED SKULL, WILL RECEIVE THE AXIS MEDAL OF HONOR FOR THIS DAYS WORK!
BUT LET US RETURN FOR A MOMENT TO NEW YORK WHERE BETTY ROSS KNOCKS ON AN APARTMENT DOOR!
THIS IS WHERE THE HUMAN TORCH LIVES - I HOPE HE'S HOME!
THE FLAME MASTER APPEARS IN ANSWER TO BETTY'S KNOCK!
HELLO!
TORCH - I'M BETTY ROSS OF THE F.B.I.! I'VE GOT TO SPEAK TO YOU!
BETTY TELLS HER STORY RAPIDLY!
...AND THAT'S THE WHOLE STORY - SO YOU SEE - YOU'RE NEEDED IN WASHINGTON!
YES - I UNDERSTAND!
TURNING ON HIS FLAME, THE TORCH ZOOMS AWAY!
SORRY TO LEAVE YOU SO ABRUPTLY - BUT I WANT TO LET CAPTAIN AMERICA IN ON THE FUN TOO!
LATER AT U.S. CAMP LEHIGH, PRIVATE STEVE ROGERS HAPPENS TO LOOK INTO THE SKY AND SEES....
CAPTAIN AMERICA YOU'RE NEEDED IN WASHINGTON! COME QUICK! TORCH!
OH, BOY, ACTION AT LAST!

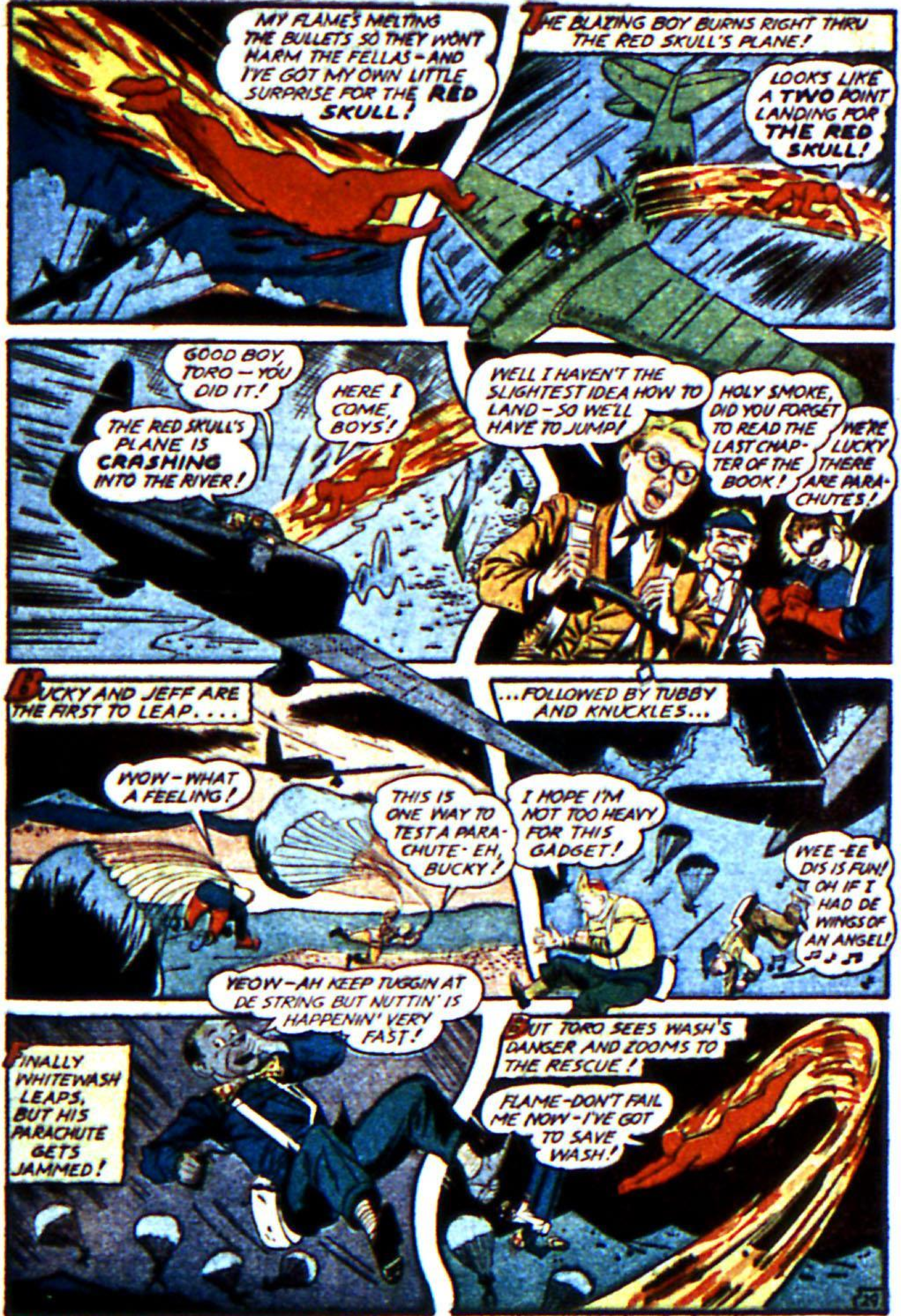

IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE, STEVE ROGERS IS TRANSFORMED INTO THE HEROIC FIGURE OF CAPTAIN AMERICA AND RACES THROUGH THE COUNTRYSIDE!
IF THE HUMAN TORCH IS MIXED UP IN THIS - IT'S SURE TO BE EXCITING.... WASHINGTON, HERE I COME!
BUT BACK TO THE YOUNG ALLIES - IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF WASHINGTON....
SAY, LOOK! THAT PLANE'S DROPPING LEAFLETS!
I WONDER WHAT THEY SAY!
RACING DOWN THE SLOPE TO THE SHEETS OF PAPER, WASH LOSES CONTROL OF HIS BICYCLE AND....
GANG WAY!
HEY- WAIT UP! MAH LEGS CAIN'T GET TOGETHER WITH MAH PEDALS!
HERE'S ONE- NOW LET'S SEE?
POW!
YOU LUMMOX!
HEY, FELLAS, THERE'S A PECULIAR ODOR ABOUT THESE PAPERS -LIKE GAS!
WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT, JEFF!
I DON'T KNOW YET, BUT I'M GOING TO INVESTIGATE THIS PAPER WHEN WE GET OURSELVES A HOTEL ROOM!
HA-HA, JUST A FEW HOURS MORE AND WASHINGTON, D.C. WILL BE DESTROYED!
WILL THE YOUNG ALLIES BE ABLE TO SAVE THE CITY OF WASHINGTON FROM ALMOST CERTAIN DISASTER?

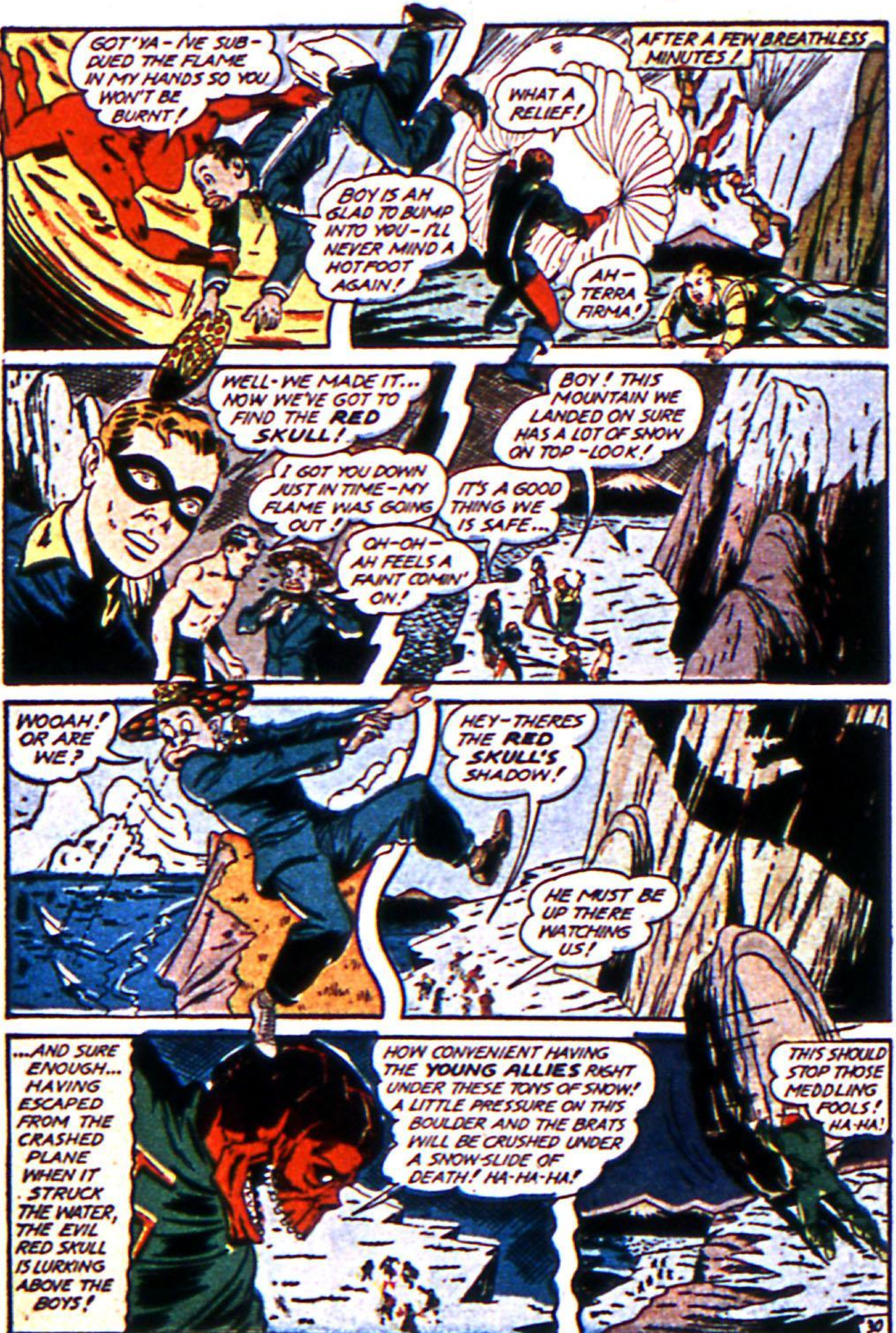

A FEW MINUTES LATER THE BOYS REACH A HOTEL ROOM...
HERE WE ARE!
NOW TO SEE WHAT THERE IS ABOUT THESE PAPERS THAT'S SO STRANGE!
SUDDENLY!
THAT'S SOME POWERFUL MICROSCOPE!
AH'LL BET THAT IF YOU'ALL WAS A BUG, TUBBY, AH'D. NEED TWO MICROSCOPES TO SEE YOU-YOU IS SO FAT!
WHAT'S THE MATTER JEFF?
TREMBLING THUNDER-BOLTS, THIS IS AWFUL!
IT'S ALMOST TOO HORRIBLE TO BELIEVE-BUT THERE IS A GAS UPON THIS PAPER WHICH WILL BE RELEASED AFTER ABOUT TWELVE HOURS AND WHICH MEANS CERTAIN DEATH TO ANY ONE WHO INHALES IT!
BUT THOSE PAPERS ARE BEING DROPPED ALL OVER WASHINGTON!
THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE, JEFF!
TO THE AIRPORT, FELLAS!
THERE'S NO MISTAKE-WE'VE GOT NO TIME-THIS MUST BE THE RED SKULL'S HORRIBLE PLAN TO KILL EVERYONE IN WASHINGTON BY POISON GAS!
SECONDS LATER AT THE AIRPORT!
HOLD ON A MINUTE-WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING!
YOU'VE GOT TO SEND A PILOT UP TO SHOOT DOWN THE RED SKULL'S PLANE! HE'S GOING TO GAS THE CITY OF WASHINGTON!
TAXI

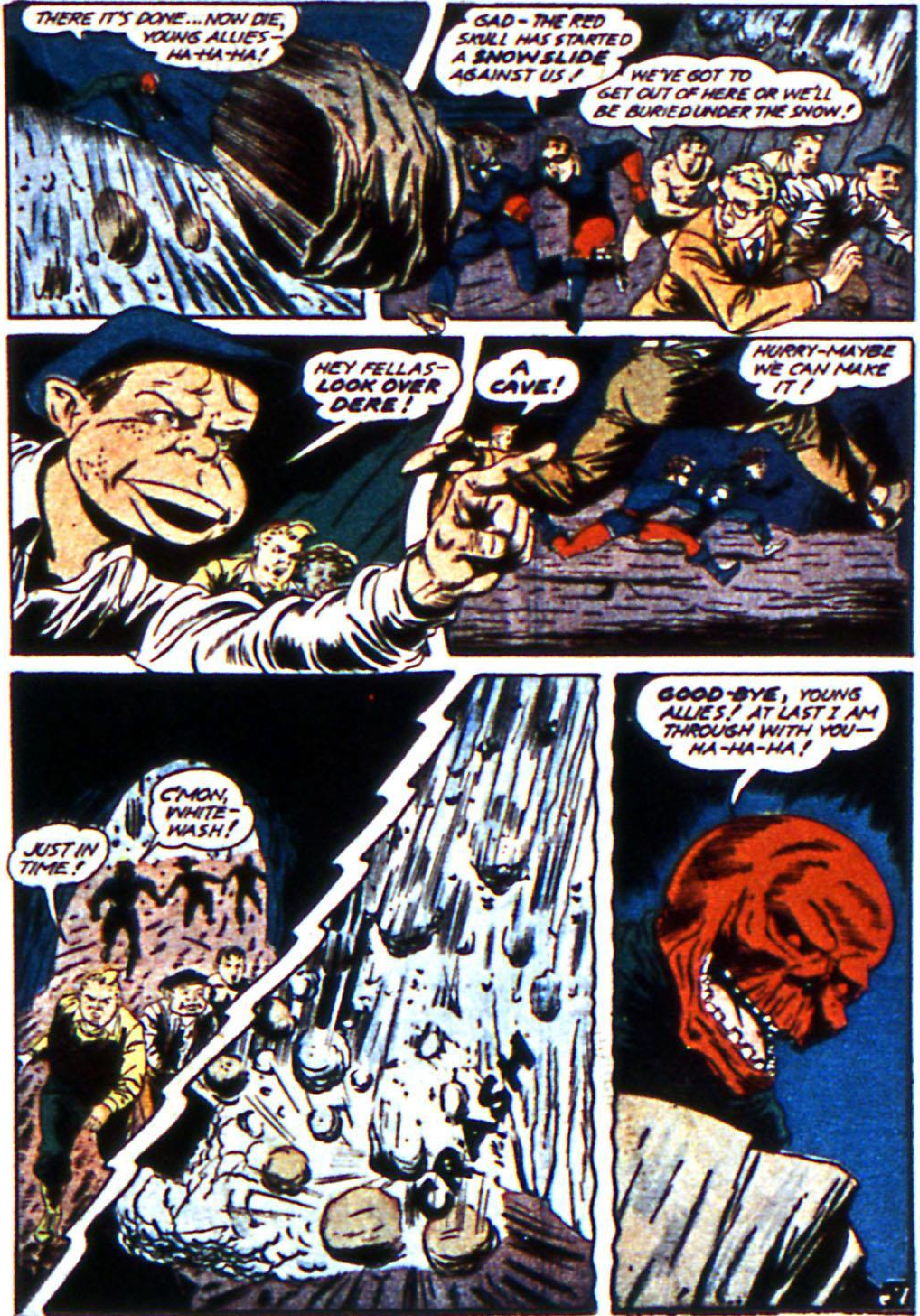

GO'WAN, BEAT IT BEFORE I LET YOU HAVE IT! I AIN'T GOT TIME FOR KIDDIN AROUND!
TEN MINUTES LATER...
HA - I SURE SCARED THOSE KIDS AWAY! IMAGINE, TRYIN' TO TELL ME ABOUT THE SKULL! EVERYONE KNOWS HE'S DEAD - BOY, THOSE SCARED KIDS MUST BE MILES AWAY BY NOW!
BUT ONLY A FEW FEET AWAY, THE FLAMING TORO IS BURNING A HOLE THRU THE METAL FENCE BY MELTING IT WITH HIS INTENSE BODY HEAT!
HURRY, FIRE-PANTS, BEFORE HE SEES YOU!
KEEP YOUR SHIRT ON, SIMP...I'LL BE THRU IN A SECOND!
SAY-I SMELL SMOKE! I'LL SEE WHAT - HEY! STOP YOU! STOP OR I'LL SHOOT!
HURRY, JEFF, HURRY!
YEOW!
HERE, TRY SHOOTING WITH A MELTED GUN!
O.K. KIDS, HERE'S WHERE YOU GET IT!
BUT SUDDENLY...
MY FLAME...! IT'S GOING OUT!
NOW, KIDS, REACH FOR THE SKY!

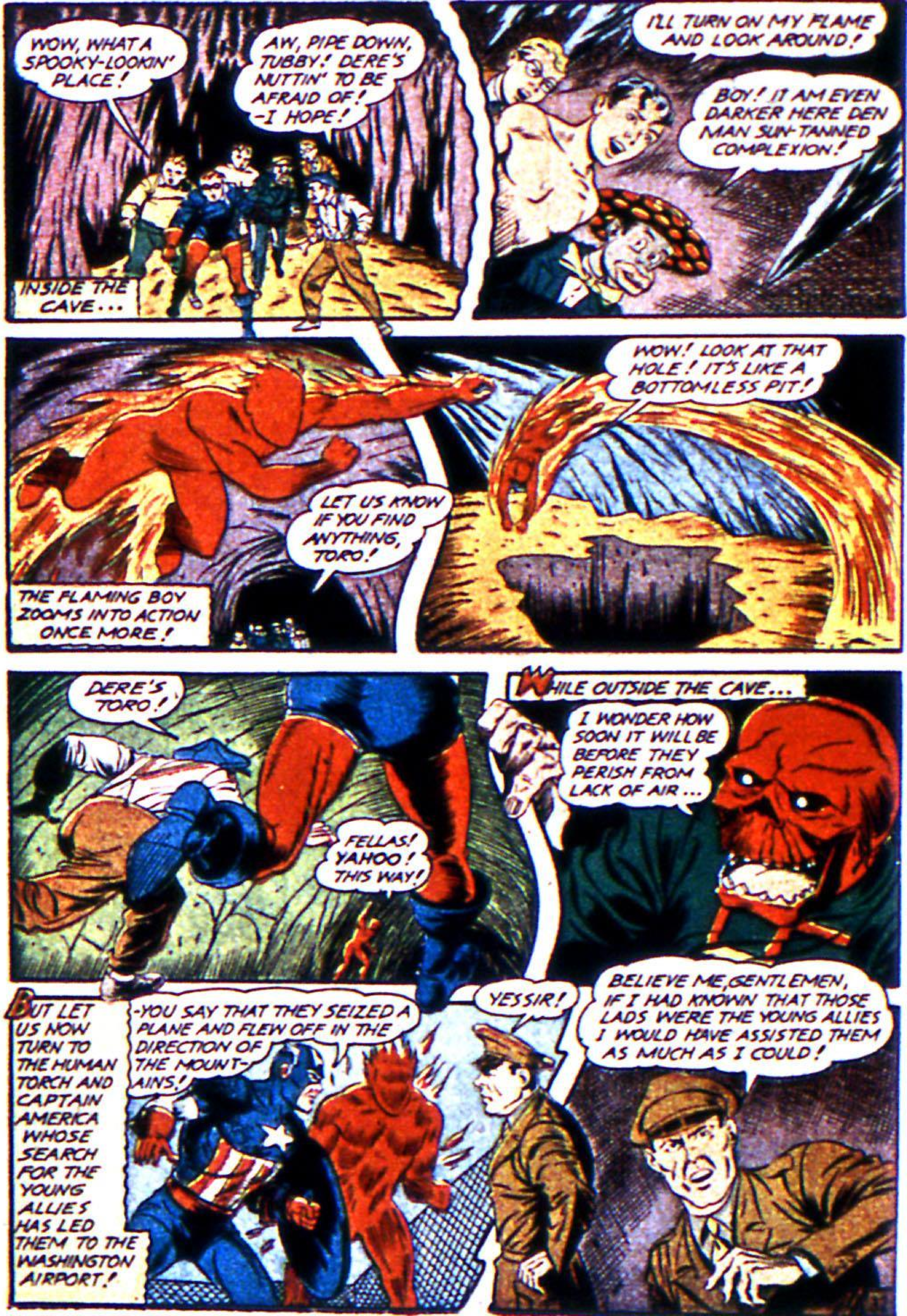

NOW YOU'LL STAY IN THERE TILL WE DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH YOU!
WE'RE LICKED, NOW!
LOOKS LIKE DIS IS ONE TIME DE RED SKULL WILL BEAT US SURE ENUF!
SECONDS LATER, OUTSIDE THE CELL!
SORRY, PAL, BUT I'M GONNA HAVETA DO THIS!
CRACK
DID'YA HEAR THAT!
DIDN'T THAT SOUND LIKE SOMEONE WAS BEING CONKED?
AH-HERE DEY ARE!
MP
AS THE CELL DOOR SWINGS OPEN THE YOUNG ALLIES SEE A FAMILIAR FIGURE!
HI'YA GANG, I JUST FIXED IT WID DE GUARD TO LET YOU OUT!
KNUCKLES, YOU'RE ALIVE!
HOLY SMOKE, KNUCKLES!
BUT HOW DID YOU ESCAPE FROM THE FLOODED TUNNEL-ESPECIALLY AFTER THE EXPLOSION?
DE EXPLOSION IS WHAT DID IT! IT BLEW ME RIGHT UP TO DE SURFACE... I WOKE UP IN AN OLD BARREL!
DAT MUSTA BEEN DE BARREL DAT WE SEED WHEN WE WAS SEARCHIN' FER YOU! WE DIDN'T KNOW YOU WAS IN IT-BUT HOW DID YOU FIND US?

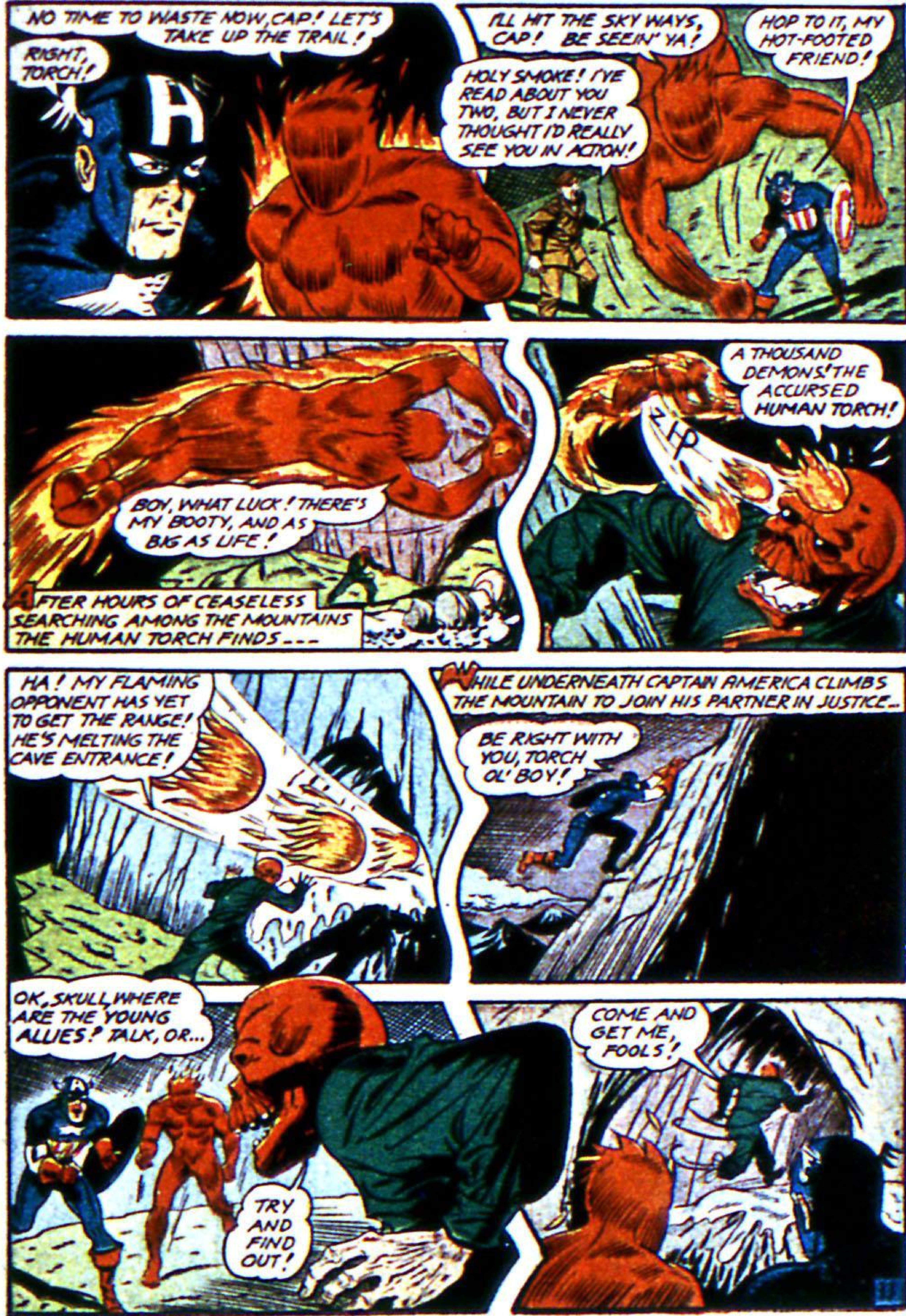

I KNEW YOU'D END UP IN WASHINGTON 'CAUSE DE RED SKULL SAID HE'D BE HERE— SO I MADE TRACKS FOR DIS BURG, PASSED DE AIRPORT, HEARD DE EXCITEMENT, AND HERE I AM!
THERE'S A PLANE, FELLAS, HURRY!
GET IN QUICKLY— I THINK I CAN START THIS THING!
LOOK-DE GUARDS IS COMIN'!
THE BRATS ARE ESCAPING!
STOP 'EM!
YEAH, WE MADE IT!
OH— THE DUST— MY EYES!
FINALLY THE PLANE SOARS INTO THE AIR— WHEN JEFF MAKES A STARTLING ANNOUNCEMENT!
THERE'S THE RED SKULL'S PLANE, NOW, JEFF!
GOSH I THOUGHT THIS WAS A PASSENGER PLANE— IT HASN'T ANY GUNS! WHAT CAN WE DO?
OH MY AH'S TOO YOUNG TO DIE IN A AIR-PLANE CRASH!
LOOK! AM I NEVER TO BE RID OF THOSE YOUNG ALLIES? FLY AT THEM AND MACHINE GUN THEM! THIS TIME THEY WON'T ESCAPE ME!
MEANWHILE, IN THE RED SKULL'S PLANE, THE MASTER-OF-EVIL SPOTS HIS ENEMIES IN THEIR CABIN!
OH YEAH— LET ME AT HIM!
THE SKULL'S PLANE IS GOING TO MACHINE-GUN US!
BUT TORO'S AMAZING FLAME IS AGAIN BROUGHT INTO PLAY!

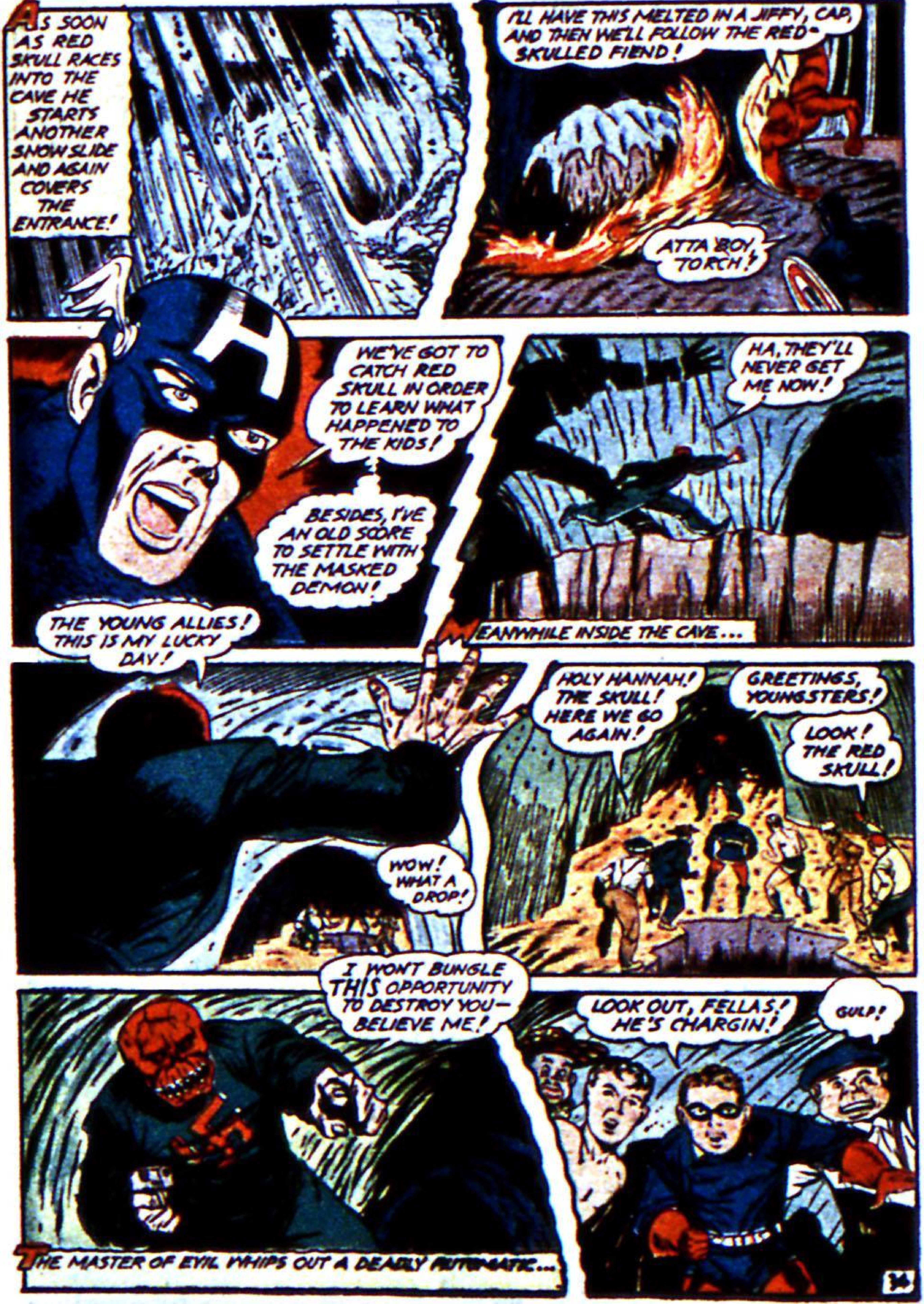

MY FLAME'S MELTING THE BULLETS SO THEY WON'T HARM THE FELLAS—AND I'VE GOT MY OWN LITTLE SURPRISE FOR THE RED SKULL!
THE BLAZING BOY BURNS RIGHT THRU THE RED SKULL'S PLANE!
LOOKS LIKE A TWO POINT LANDING FOR THE RED SKULL!
GOOD BOY, TORO—YOU DID IT!
THE RED SKULL'S PLANE IS CRASHING INTO THE RIVER!
HERE I COME, BOYS!
WELL I HAVEN'T THE SLIGHTEST IDEA HOW TO LAND—SO WE'LL HAVE TO JUMP!
HOLY SMOKE, DID YOU FORGET TO READ THE LAST CHAPTER OF THE BOOK!
WE'RE LUCKY THERE ARE PARACHUTES!
BUCKY AND JEFF ARE THE FIRST TO LEAP....
WOW—WHAT A FEELING!
THIS IS ONE WAY TO TEST A PARACHUTE—EH, BUCKY!
...FOLLOWED BY TUBBY AND KNUCKLES...
I HOPE I'M NOT TOO HEAVY FOR THIS GADGET!
WEE-EE DIS IS FUN! OH IF I HAD DE WINGS OF AN ANGEL! ♪♪♪♫
FINALLY WHITEWASH LEAPS, BUT HIS PARACHUTE GETS JAMMED!
YEOW—AH KEEP TUGGIN AT DE STRING BUT NUTTIN' IS HAPPENIN' VERY FAST!
BUT TORO SEES WASH'S DANGER AND ZOOMS TO THE RESCUE!
FLAME—DON'T FAIL ME NOW—I'VE GOT TO SAVE WASH!

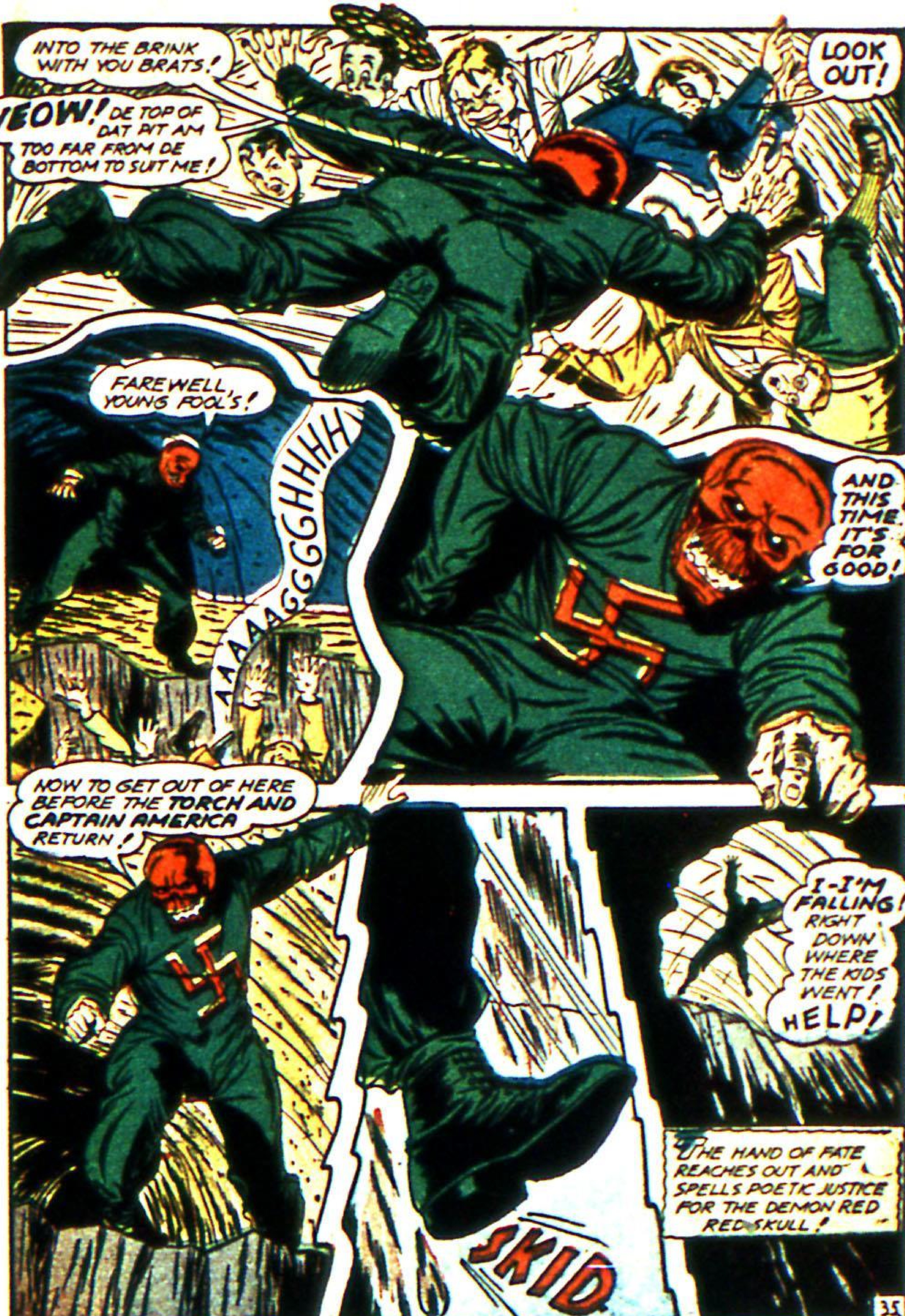

GOT'YA - I'VE SUBDUED THE FLAME IN MY HANDS SO YOU WON'T BE BURNT!
BOY IS AH GLAD TO BUMP INTO YOU - I'LL NEVER MIND A HOTFOOT AGAIN!
AFTER A FEW BREATHLESS MINUTES!
WHAT A RELIEF!
AH - TERRA FIRMA!
WELL - WE MADE IT... NOW WE'VE GOT TO FIND THE **RED SKULL**!
I GOT YOU DOWN JUST IN TIME - MY FLAME WAS GOING OUT!
BOY! THIS MOUNTAIN WE LANDED ON SURE HAS A LOT OF SNOW ON TOP - LOOK!
IT'S A GOOD THING WE IS SAFE...
OH-OH - AH FEELS A FAINT COMIN' ON!
WOOAH! OR ARE WE?
HEY - THERES THE **RED SKULL'S** SHADOW!
HE MUST BE UP THERE WATCHING US!
...AND SURE ENOUGH... HAVING ESCAPED FROM THE CRASHED PLANE WHEN IT STRUCK THE WATER, THE EVIL RED SKULL IS LURKING ABOVE THE BOYS!
HOW CONVENIENT HAVING THE **YOUNG ALLIES** RIGHT UNDER THESE TONS OF SNOW! A LITTLE PRESSURE ON THIS BOULDER AND THE BRATS WILL BE CRUSHED UNDER A SNOW-SLIDE OF DEATH! HA-HA-HA!
THIS SHOULD STOP THOSE MEDDLING FOOLS! HA-HA!

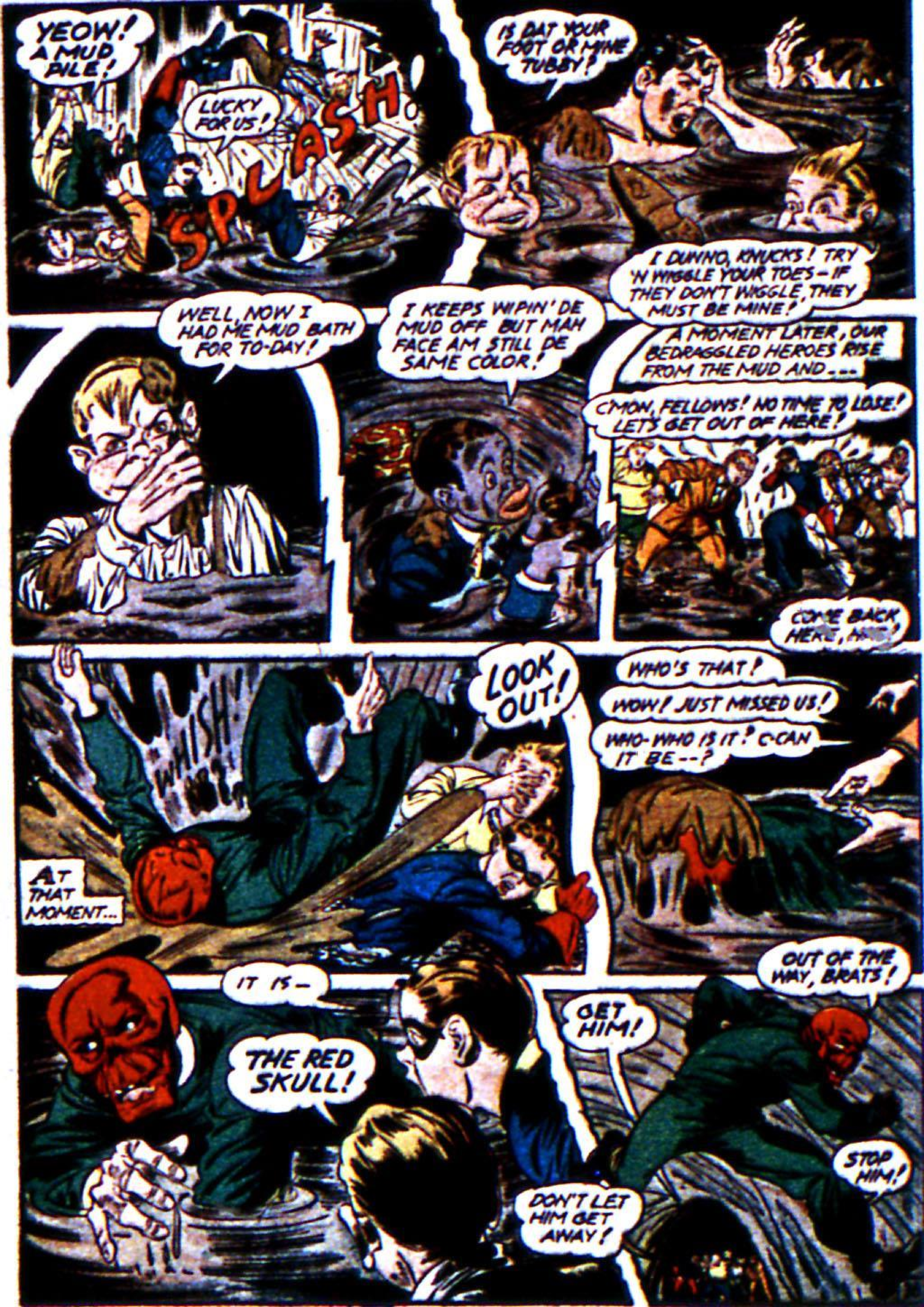

THERE IT'S DONE...NOW DIE, YOUNG ALLIES— HA-HA-HA!
GAD—THE RED SKULL HAS STARTED A SNOWSLIDE AGAINST US!
WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE OR WE'LL BE BURIED UNDER THE SNOW!
HEY FELLAS— LOOK OVER DERE!
A CAVE!
HURRY—MAYBE WE CAN MAKE IT!
JUST IN TIME!
C'MON, WHITE-WASH!
GOOD-BYE, YOUNG ALLIES! AT LAST I AM THROUGH WITH YOU— HA-HA-HA!

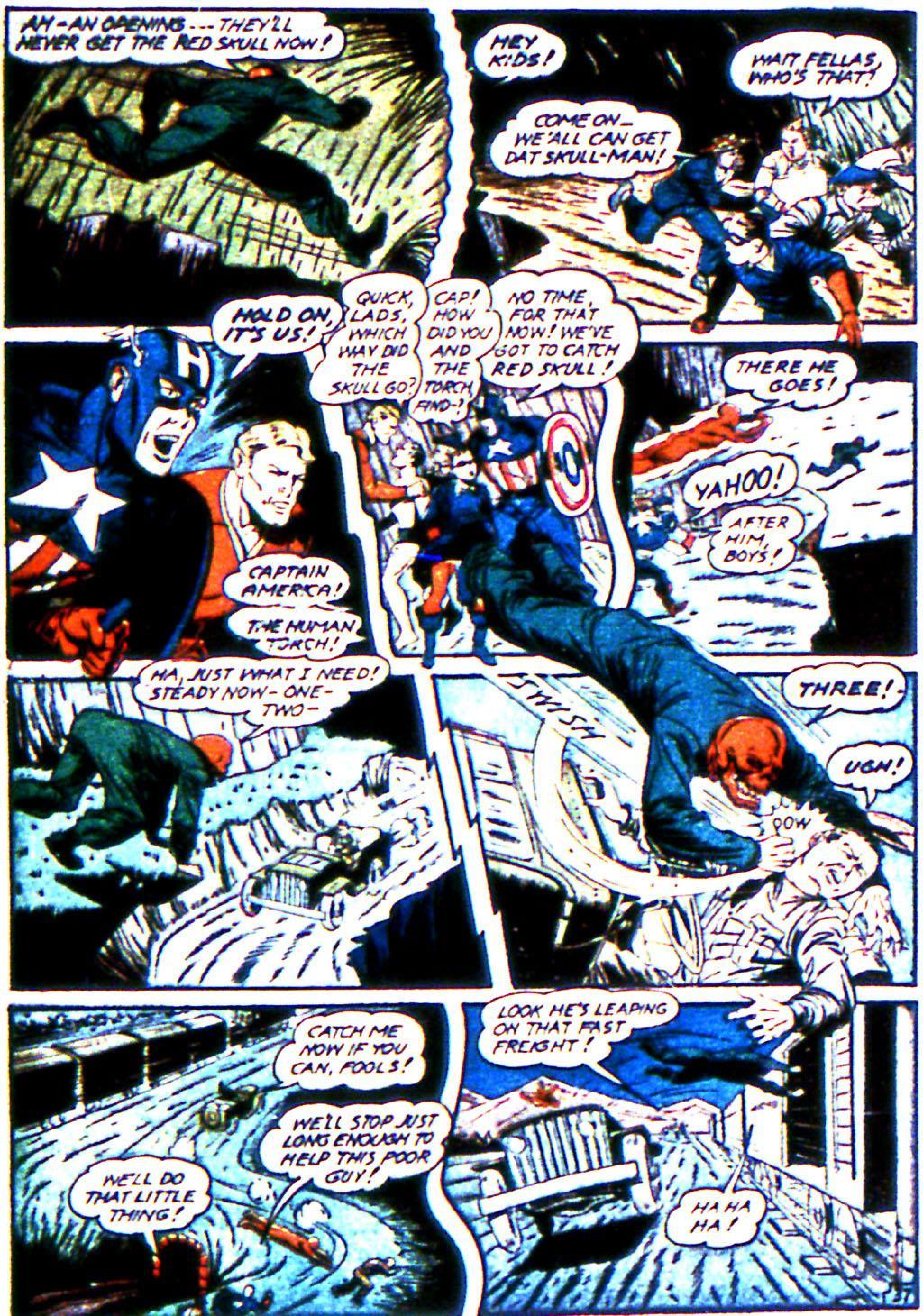

WOW, WHAT A SPOOKY-LOOKIN' PLACE!
AW, PIPE DOWN, TUBBY! DERE'S NUTTIN' TO BE AFRAID OF! -I HOPE!
INSIDE THE CAVE...
I'LL TURN ON MY FLAME AND LOOK AROUND!
BOY! IT AM EVEN DARKER HERE DEN MAN SUN-TANNED COMPLEXION!
THE FLAMING BOY ZOOMS INTO ACTION ONCE MORE!
LET US KNOW IF YOU FIND ANYTHING, TORO!
WOW! LOOK AT THAT HOLE! IT'S LIKE A BOTTOMLESS PIT!
DERE'S TORO!
FELLAS! YAHOO! THIS WAY!
WHILE OUTSIDE THE CAVE...
I WONDER HOW SOON IT WILL BE BEFORE THEY PERISH FROM LACK OF AIR...
BUT LET US NOW TURN TO THE HUMAN TORCH AND CAPTAIN AMERICA WHOSE SEARCH FOR THE YOUNG ALLIES HAS LED THEM TO THE WASHINGTON AIRPORT!
-YOU SAY THAT THEY SEIZED A PLANE AND FLEW OFF IN THE DIRECTION OF THE MOUNTAINS!
YESSIR!
BELIEVE ME, GENTLEMEN, IF I HAD KNOWN THAT THOSE LADS WERE THE YOUNG ALLIES I WOULD HAVE ASSISTED THEM AS MUCH AS I COULD!

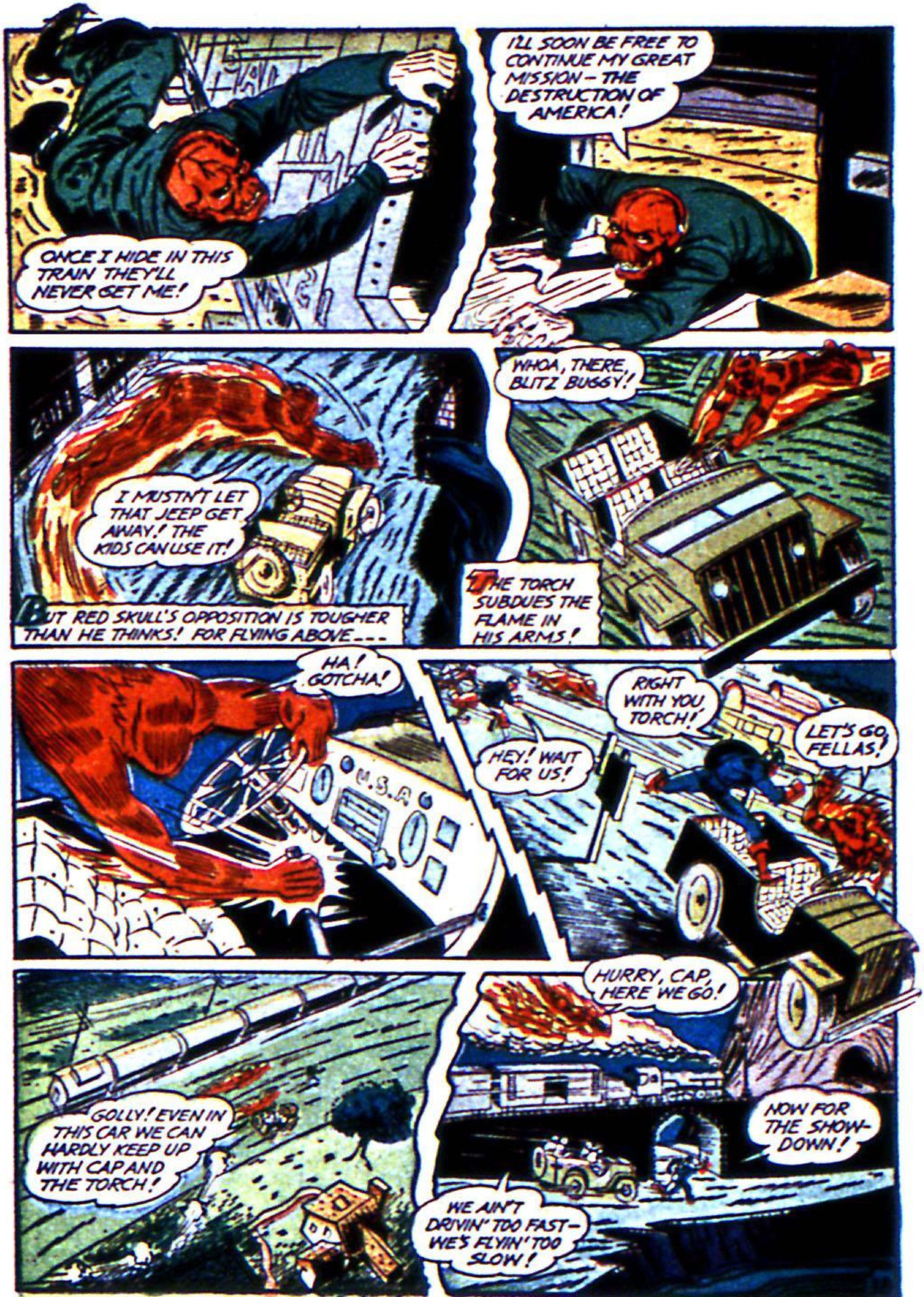

NO TIME TO WASTE NOW, CAP! LET'S TAKE UP THE TRAIL!
RIGHT, TORCH!
I'LL HIT THE SKY WAYS, CAP! BE SEEIN' YA!
HOP TO IT, MY HOT-FOOTED FRIEND!
HOLY SMOKE! I'VE READ ABOUT YOU TWO, BUT I NEVER THOUGHT I'D REALLY SEE YOU IN ACTION!
AFTER HOURS OF CEASELESS SEARCHING AMONG THE MOUNTAINS THE HUMAN TORCH FINDS---
BOY, WHAT LUCK! THERE'S MY BOOTY, AND AS BIG AS LIFE!
A THOUSAND DEMONS! THE ACCURSED HUMAN TORCH!
ZIP
HA! MY FLAMING OPPONENT HAS YET TO GET THE RANGE! HE'S MELTING THE CAVE ENTRANCE!
WHILE UNDERNEATH CAPTAIN AMERICA CLIMBS THE MOUNTAIN TO JOIN HIS PARTNER IN JUSTICE...
BE RIGHT WITH YOU, TORCH OL' BOY!
OK, SKULL, WHERE ARE THE YOUNG ALLIES? TALK, OR...
TRY AND FIND OUT!
COME AND GET ME, FOOLS!

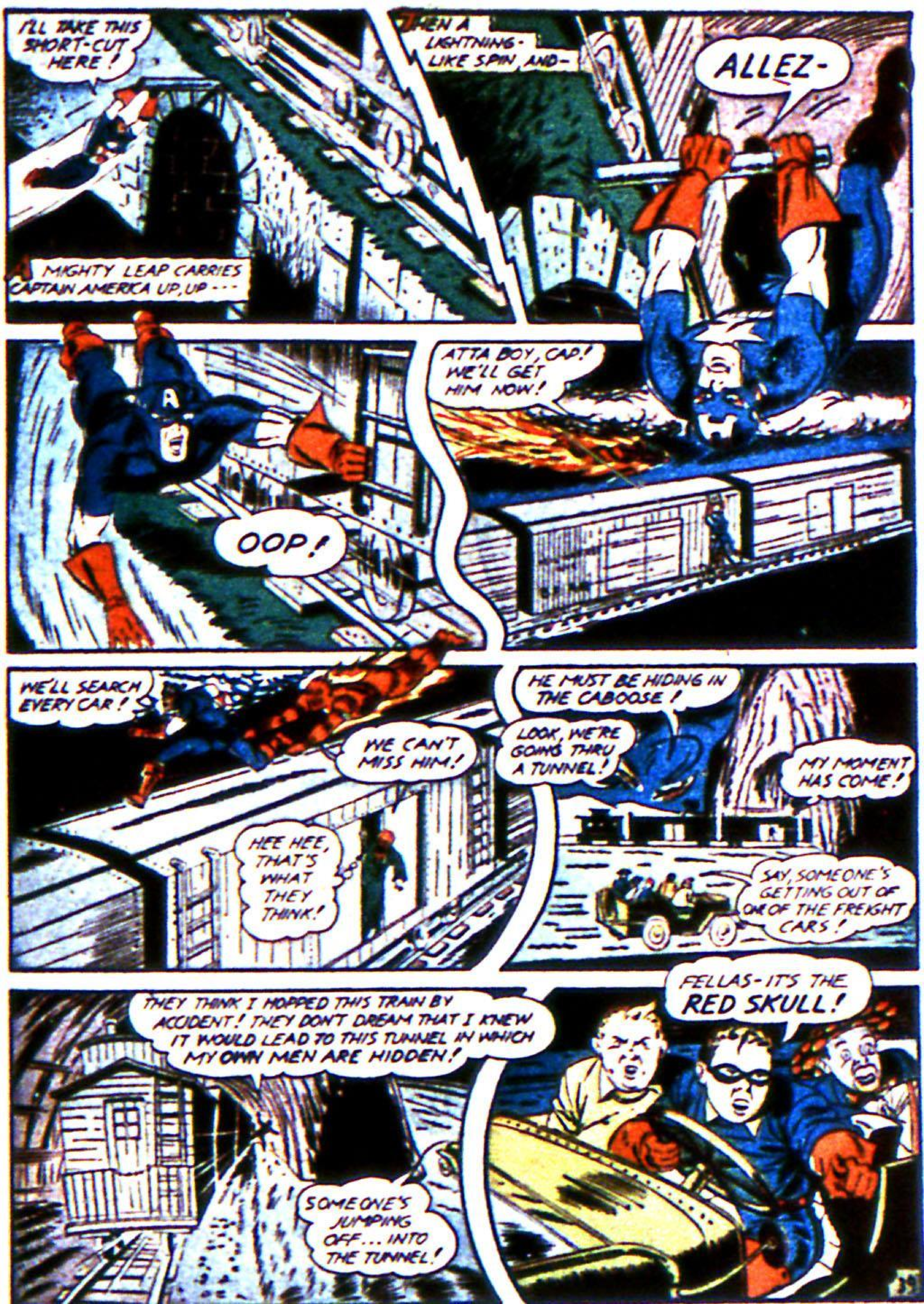

AS SOON AS RED SKULL RACES INTO THE CAVE HE STARTS ANOTHER SNOW SLIDE AND AGAIN COVERS THE ENTRANCE!
I'LL HAVE THIS MELTED IN A JIFFY, CAP, AND THEN WE'LL FOLLOW THE RED-SKULLED FIEND!
ATTA BOY, TORCH!
WE'VE GOT TO CATCH RED SKULL IN ORDER TO LEARN WHAT HAPPENED TO THE KIDS!
BESIDES, I'VE AN OLD SCORE TO SETTLE WITH THE MASKED DEMON!
HA, THEY'LL NEVER GET ME NOW!
MEANWHILE INSIDE THE CAVE...
THE YOUNG ALLIES! THIS IS MY LUCKY DAY!
WOW! WHAT A DROP!
HOLY HANNAH! THE SKULL! HERE WE GO AGAIN!
GREETINGS, YOUNGSTERS!
LOOK! THE RED SKULL!
I WON'T BUNGLE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO DESTROY YOU— BELIEVE ME!
LOOK OUT, FELLAS! HE'S CHARGIN!
GULP!
THE MASTER OF EVIL WHIPS OUT A DEADLY AUTOMATIC...

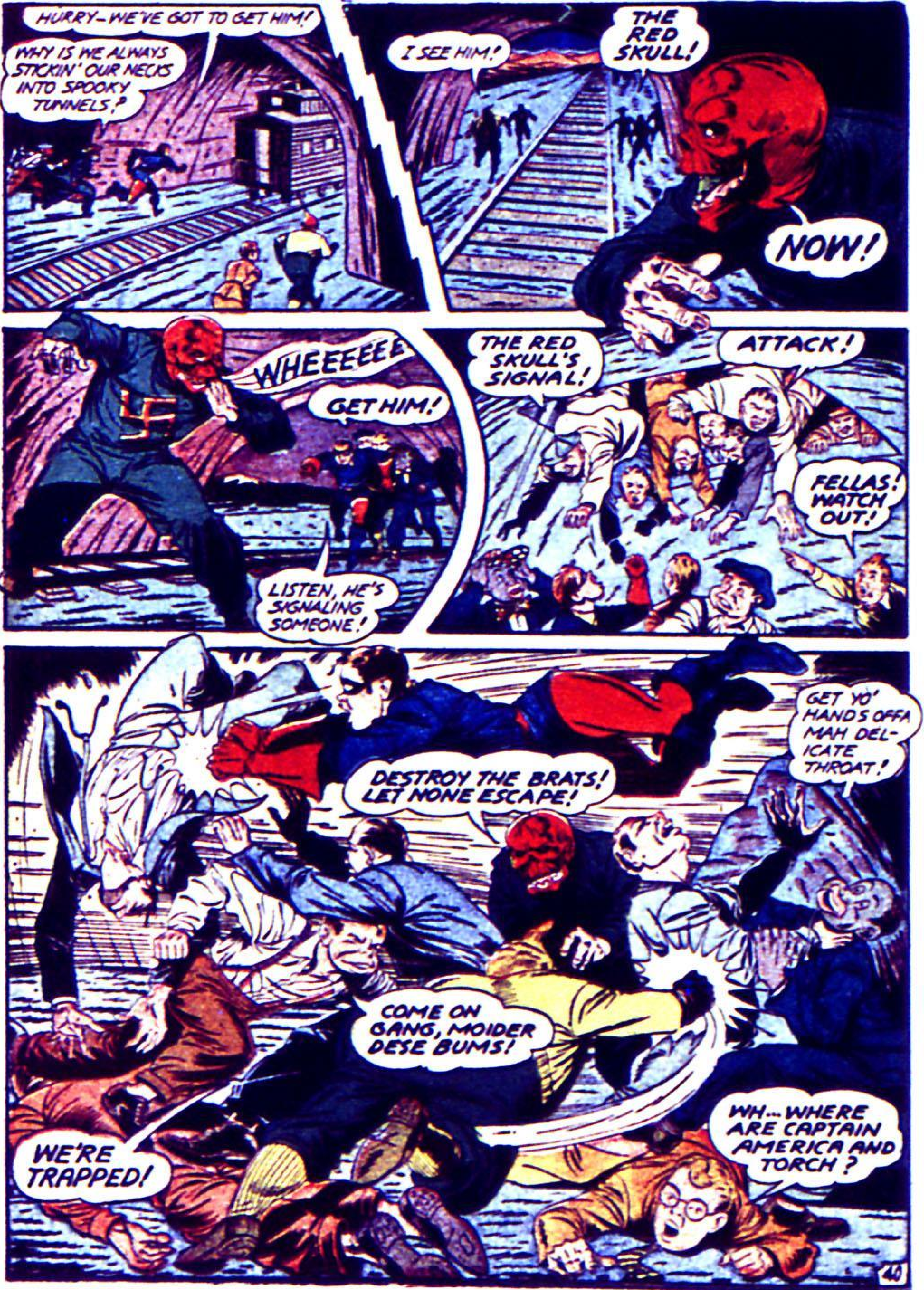

INTO THE BRINK WITH YOU BRATS!
LOOK OUT!
YEOW! DE TOP OF DAT PIT AM TOO FAR FROM DE BOTTOM TO SUIT ME!
FAREWELL, YOUNG FOOL'S!
AAAAAGGGGHHHH
AND THIS TIME IT'S FOR GOOD!
NOW TO GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE **TORCH AND CAPTAIN AMERICA** RETURN!
SKID
I-I'M FALLING! RIGHT DOWN WHERE THE KIDS WENT! HELP!
THE HAND OF FATE REACHES OUT AND SPELLS POETIC JUSTICE FOR THE DEMON RED RED SKULL!

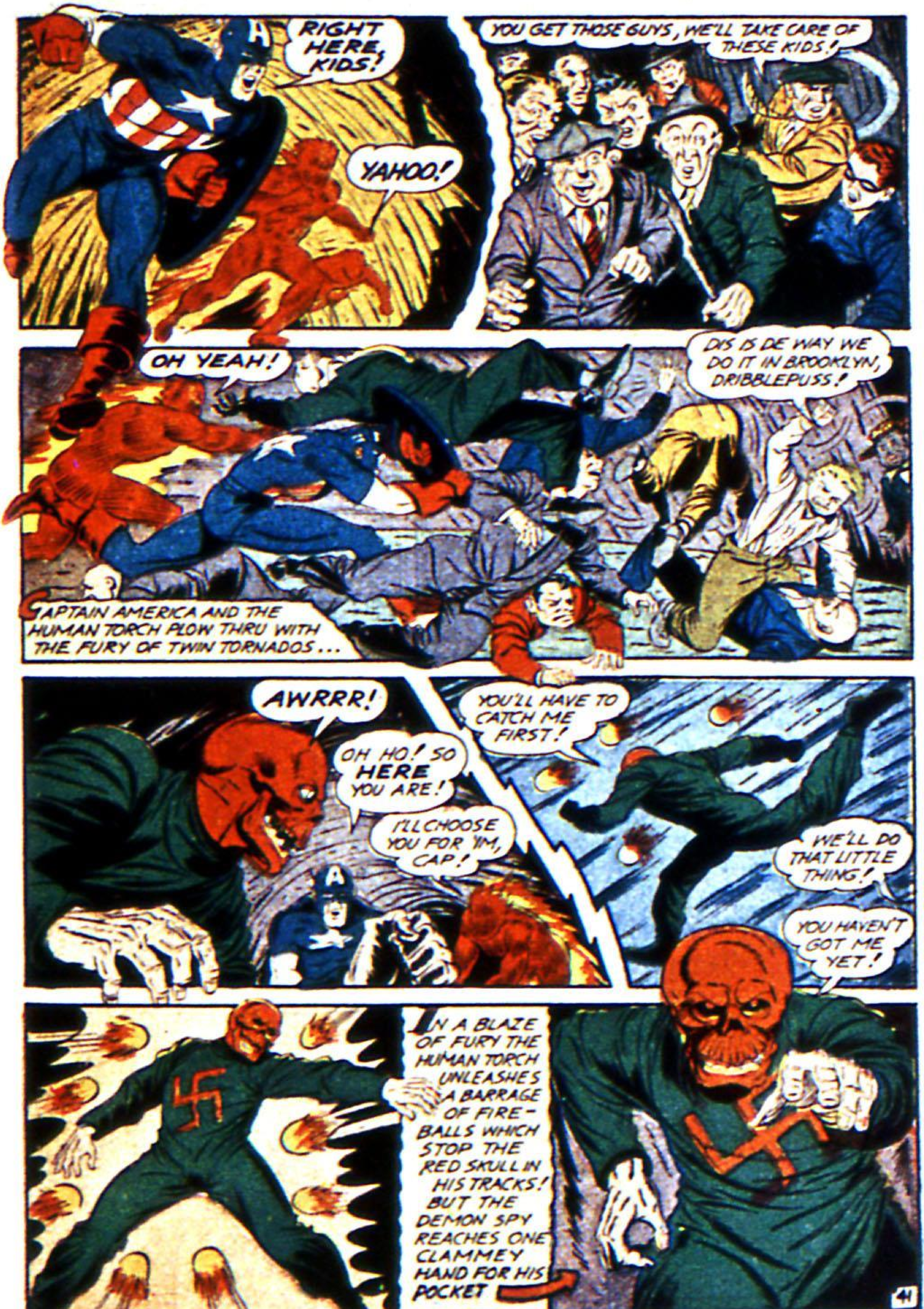

YEOW! A MUD PILE!
LUCKY FOR US!
SPLASH!
IS DAT YOUR FOOT OR MINE TUBBY?
I DUNNO, KNUCKS! TRY 'N WIGGLE YOUR TOES – IF THEY DON'T WIGGLE, THEY MUST BE MINE!
WELL, NOW I HAD ME MUD BATH FOR TO-DAY!
I KEEPS WIPIN' DE MUD OFF BUT MAH FACE AM STILL DE SAME COLOR!
A MOMENT LATER, OUR BEDRAGGLED HEROES RISE FROM THE MUD AND...
C'MON, FELLOWS! NO TIME TO LOSE! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
COME BACK HERE, [illegible]!
WHISH!
LOOK OUT!
AT THAT MOMENT...
WHO'S THAT!
WOW! JUST MISSED US!
WHO-WHO IS IT? C-CAN IT BE--?
IT IS–
THE RED SKULL!
GET HIM!
OUT OF THE WAY, BRATS!
STOP HIM!
DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!

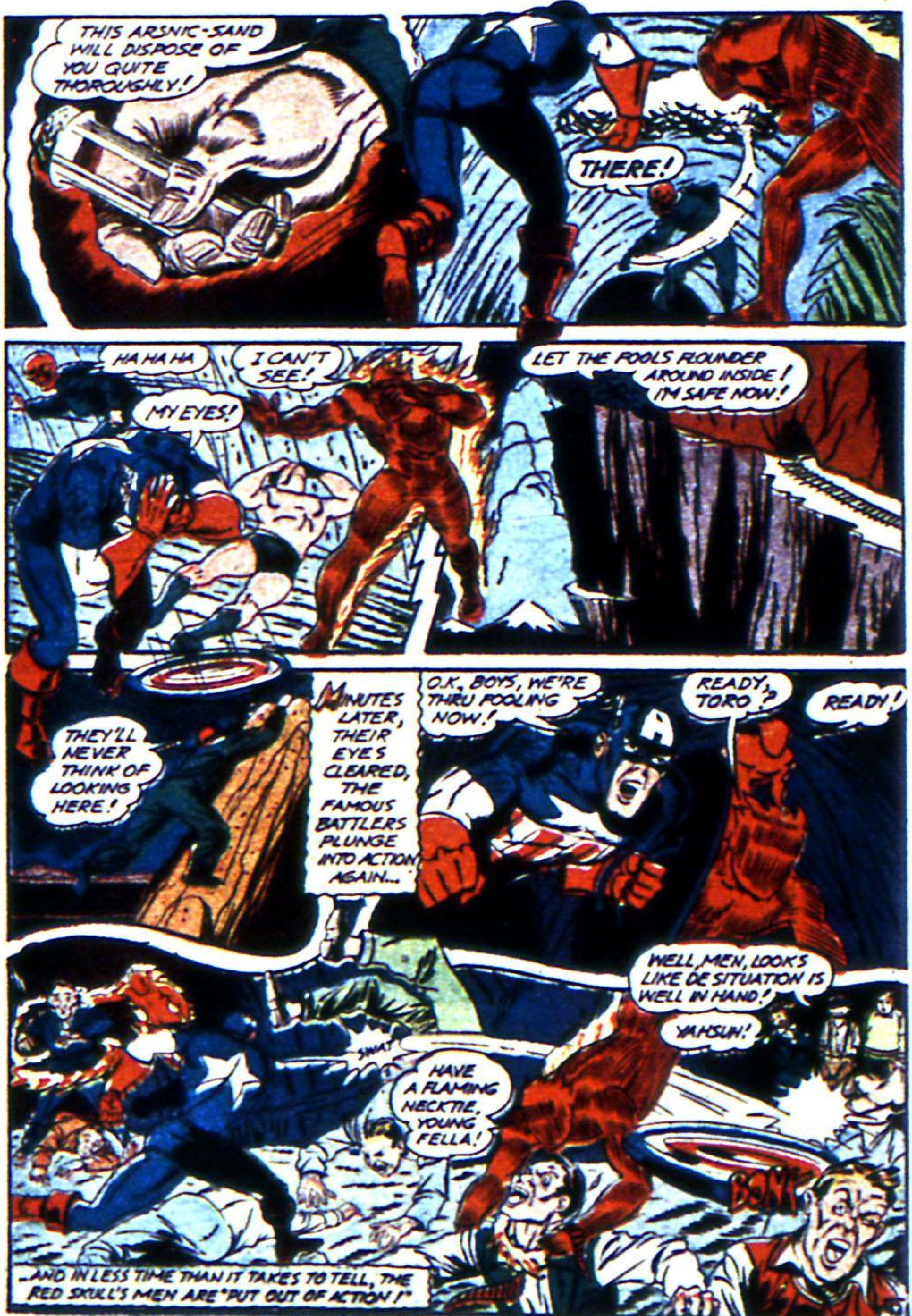

AH - AN OPENING ... THEY'LL NEVER GET THE RED SKULL NOW!
HEY KIDS!
WAIT FELLAS, WHO'S THAT!
COME ON - WE'ALL CAN GET DAT SKULL-MAN!
HOLD ON, IT'S US!
CAPTAIN AMERICA!
THE HUMAN TORCH!
QUICK, LADS, WHICH WAY DID THE SKULL GO?
CAP! HOW DID YOU AND THE TORCH FIND-!
NO TIME, FOR THAT NOW! WE'VE GOT TO CATCH RED SKULL!
THERE HE GOES!
YAHOO!
AFTER HIM, BOYS!
HA, JUST WHAT I NEED! STEADY NOW - ONE - TWO -
SWISH
THREE! -
UGH!
POW
CATCH ME NOW IF YOU CAN, FOOLS!
WE'LL STOP JUST LONG ENOUGH TO HELP THIS POOR GUY!
WE'LL DO THAT LITTLE THING!
LOOK HE'S LEAPING ON THAT FAST FREIGHT!
HA HA HA!

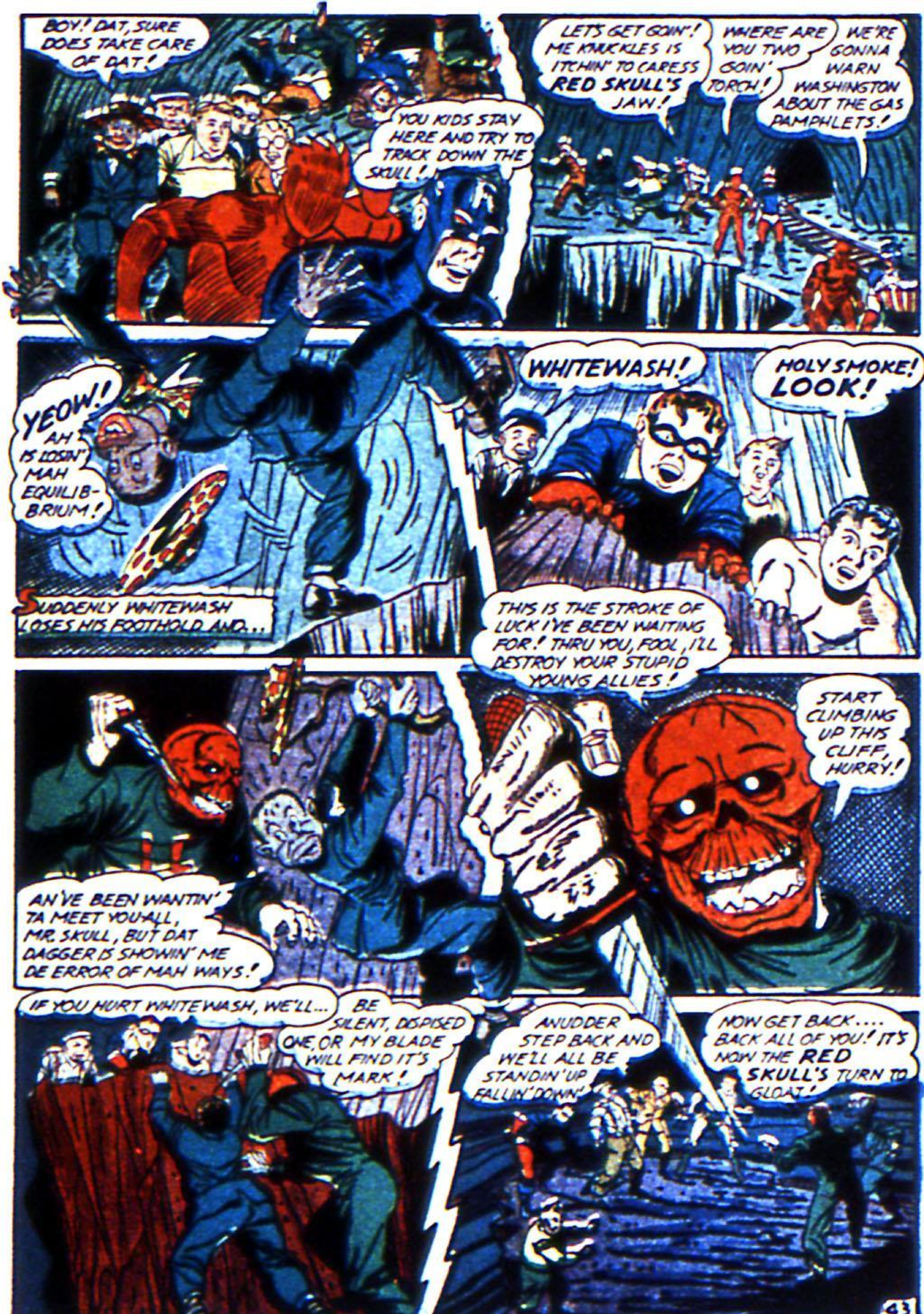

ONCE I HIDE IN THIS TRAIN THEY'LL NEVER GET ME!
I'LL SOON BE FREE TO CONTINUE MY GREAT MISSION — THE DESTRUCTION OF AMERICA!
BUT RED SKULL'S OPPOSITION IS TOUGHER THAN HE THINKS! FOR FLYING ABOVE---
I MUSTN'T LET THAT JEEP GET AWAY! THE KIDS CAN USE IT!
WHOA, THERE, BLITZ BUGGY!
THE TORCH SUBDUES THE FLAME IN HIS ARMS!
HA! GOTCHA!
U.S.A
RIGHT WITH YOU, TORCH!
HEY! WAIT FOR US!
LET'S GO, FELLAS!
GOLLY! EVEN IN THIS CAR WE CAN HARDLY KEEP UP WITH CAP AND THE TORCH!
HURRY, CAP, HERE WE GO!
NOW FOR THE SHOW-DOWN!
WE AIN'T DRIVIN' TOO FAST— WE'S FLYIN' TOO SLOW!

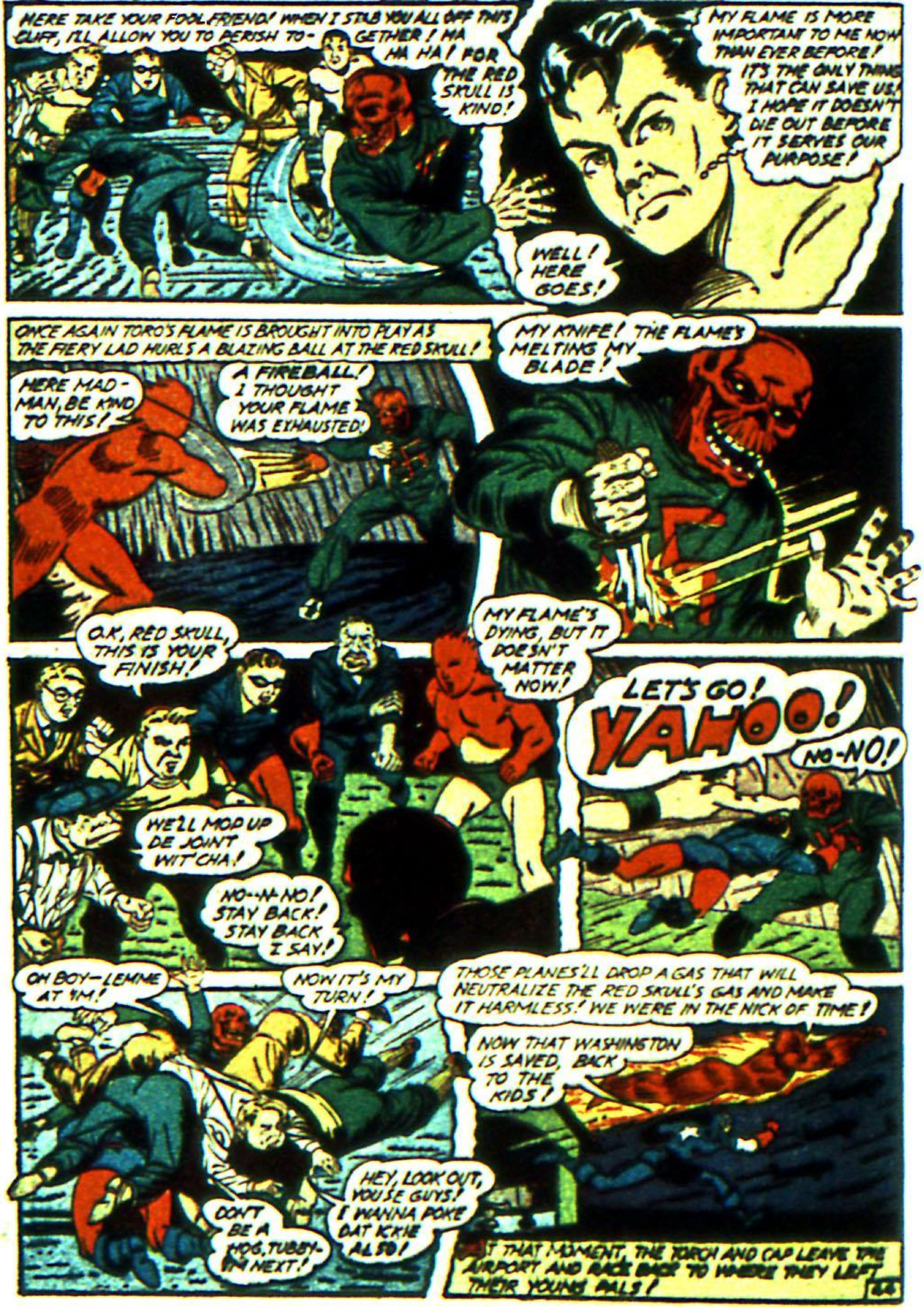

I'LL TAKE THIS SHORT-CUT HERE!
A MIGHTY LEAP CARRIES CAPTAIN AMERICA UP, UP---
THEN A LIGHTNING-LIKE SPIN, AND-
ALLEZ-
OOP!
ATTA BOY, CAP! WE'LL GET HIM NOW!
WE'LL SEARCH EVERY CAR!
WE CAN'T MISS HIM!
HEE HEE, THAT'S WHAT THEY THINK!
HE MUST BE HIDING IN THE CABOOSE!
LOOK, WE'RE GOING THRU A TUNNEL!
MY MOMENT HAS COME!
SAY, SOMEONE'S GETTING OUT OF ON OF THE FREIGHT CARS!
THEY THINK I HOPPED THIS TRAIN BY ACCIDENT! THEY DON'T DREAM THAT I KNEW IT WOULD LEAD TO THIS TUNNEL IN WHICH MY OWN MEN ARE HIDDEN!
SOMEONE'S JUMPING OFF... INTO THE TUNNEL!
FELLAS- IT'S THE RED SKULL!

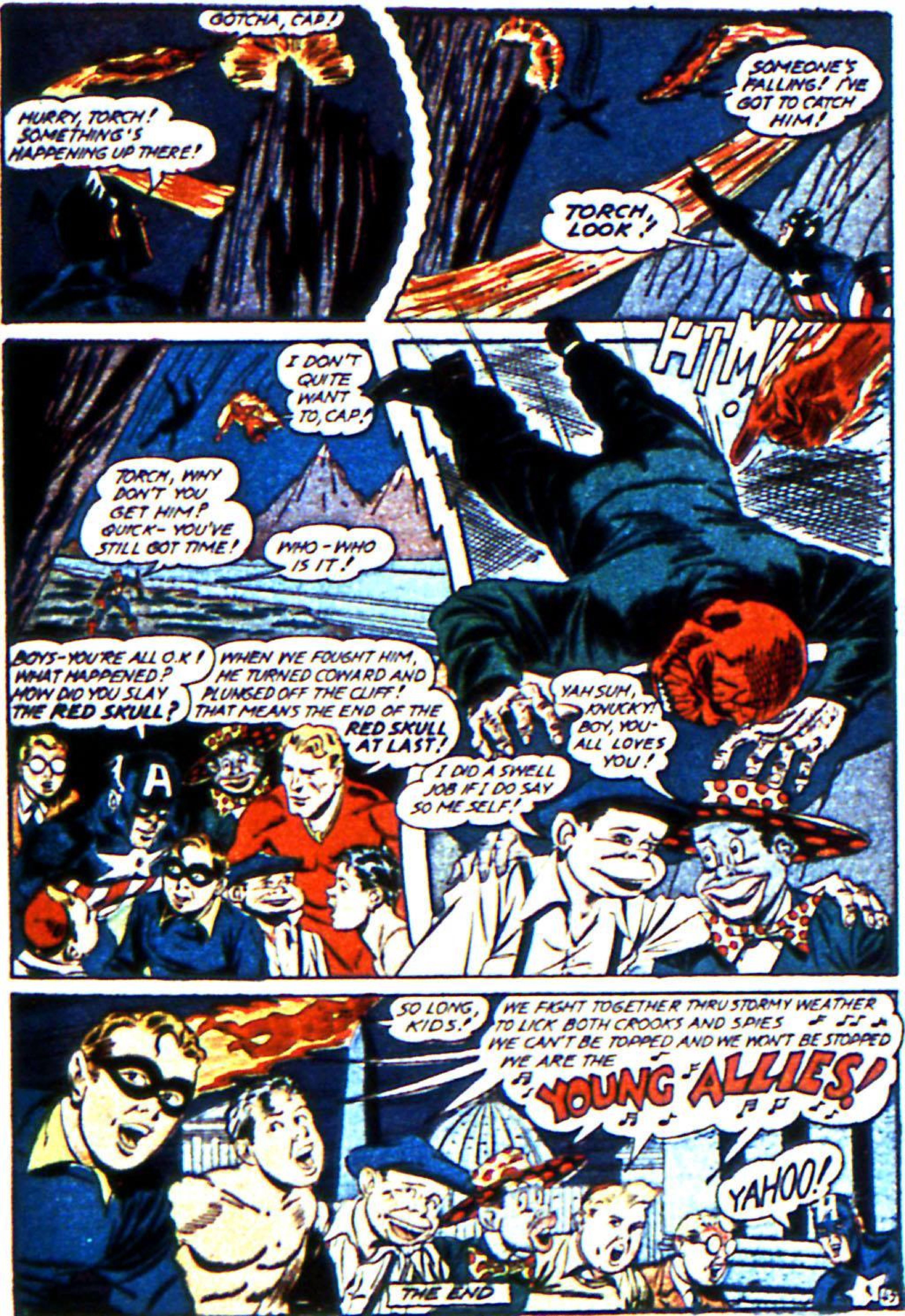

HURRY–WE'VE GOT TO GET HIM!
WHY IS WE ALWAYS STICKIN' OUR NECKS INTO SPOOKY TUNNELS?
I SEE HIM!
THE RED SKULL!
NOW!
WHEEEEEE
GET HIM!
LISTEN, HE'S SIGNALING SOMEONE!
THE RED SKULL'S SIGNAL!
ATTACK!
FELLAS! WATCH OUT!
GET YO' HANDS OFFA MAH DELICATE THROAT!
DESTROY THE BRATS! LET NONE ESCAPE!
COME ON GANG, MOIDER DESE BUMS!
WE'RE TRAPPED!
WH... WHERE ARE CAPTAIN AMERICA AND TORCH?


RIGHT HERE, KIDS!
YAHOO!
YOU GET THOSE GUYS, WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THESE KIDS!
OH YEAH!
DIS IS DE WAY WE DO IT IN BROOKLYN, DRIBBLEPUSS!
CAPTAIN AMERICA AND THE HUMAN TORCH PLOW THRU WITH THE FURY OF TWIN TORNADOS...
AWRRR!
OH HO! SO HERE YOU ARE!
I'LL CHOOSE YOU FOR 'IM, CAP!
YOU'LL HAVE TO CATCH ME FIRST!
WE'LL DO THAT LITTLE THING!
YOU HAVEN'T GOT ME YET!
IN A BLAZE OF FURY THE HUMAN TORCH UNLEASHES A BARRAGE OF FIRE-BALLS WHICH STOP THE RED SKULL IN HIS TRACKS! BUT THE DEMON SPY REACHES ONE CLAMMEY HAND FOR HIS POCKET


THIS ARSNIC-SAND WILL DISPOSE OF YOU QUITE THOROUGHLY!
THERE!
HA HA HA
I CAN'T SEE!
MY EYES!
LET THE FOOLS FLOUNDER AROUND INSIDE! I'M SAFE NOW!
THEY'LL NEVER THINK OF LOOKING HERE!
MINUTES LATER, THEIR EYES CLEARED, THE FAMOUS BATTLERS PLUNGE INTO ACTION AGAIN...
O.K., BOYS, WE'RE THRU FOOLING NOW!
READY, TORO?
READY!
WELL, MEN, LOOKS LIKE DE SITUATION IS WELL IN HAND!
YAHSUH!
SWAT
HAVE A FLAMING NECKTIE, YOUNG FELLA!
BONK
...AND IN LESS TIME THAN IT TAKES TO TELL, THE RED SKULL'S MEN ARE "PUT OUT OF ACTION!"


BOY! DAT, SURE DOES TAKE CARE OF DAT!
YOU KIDS STAY HERE AND TRY TO TRACK DOWN THE SKULL!
LET'S GET GOIN'! ME KNUCKLES IS ITCHIN' TO CARESS **RED SKULL'S** JAW!
WHERE ARE YOU TWO GOIN' TORCH!
WE'RE GONNA WARN WASHINGTON ABOUT THE GAS PAMPHLETS!
YEOW! AH IS LOSIN' MAH EQUILIB-BRIUM!
SUDDENLY WHITEWASH LOSES HIS FOOTHOLD AND...
WHITEWASH!
HOLY SMOKE! LOOK!
AN'VE BEEN WANTIN' TA MEET YOU-ALL, MR. SKULL, BUT DAT DAGGER IS SHOWIN' ME DE ERROR OF MAH WAYS!
THIS IS THE STROKE OF LUCK I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR! THRU YOU, FOOL, I'LL DESTROY YOUR STUPID YOUNG ALLIES!
START CLIMBING UP THIS CLIFF, HURRY!
IF YOU HURT WHITEWASH, WE'LL...
BE SILENT, DISPISED ONE, OR MY BLADE WILL FIND IT'S MARK!
ANUDDER STEP BACK AND WE'LL ALL BE STANDIN' UP FALLIN' DOWN!
NOW GET BACK.... BACK ALL OF YOU! IT'S NOW THE **RED SKULL'S** TURN TO GLOAT!


HERE TAKE YOUR FOOL FRIEND! WHEN I STAB YOU ALL OFF THIS CLIFF, I'LL ALLOW YOU TO PERISH TO-GETHER! HA HA HA! FOR THE RED SKULL IS KIND!
MY FLAME IS MORE IMPORTANT TO ME NOW THAN EVER BEFORE! IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT CAN SAVE US! I HOPE IT DOESN'T DIE OUT BEFORE IT SERVES OUR PURPOSE!
WELL! HERE GOES!
ONCE AGAIN TORO'S FLAME IS BROUGHT INTO PLAY AS THE FIERY LAD HURLS A BLAZING BALL AT THE RED SKULL!
HERE MAD-MAN, BE KIND TO THIS!
A FIREBALL! I THOUGHT YOUR FLAME WAS EXHAUSTED!
MY KNIFE! THE FLAME'S MELTING MY BLADE!
MY FLAME'S DYING, BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER NOW!
O.K, RED SKULL, THIS IS YOUR FINISH!
WE'LL MOP UP DE JOINT WIT'CHA!
NO--N-NO! STAY BACK! STAY BACK I SAY!
LET'S GO! YAHOO!
NO-NO!
OH BOY—LEMME AT 'IM!
NOW IT'S MY TURN!
DON'T BE A HOG, TUBBY-I'M NEXT!
HEY, LOOK OUT, YOUSE GUYS! I WANNA POKE DAT ICKIE ALSO!
THOSE PLANES'LL DROP A GAS THAT WILL NEUTRALIZE THE RED SKULL'S GAS AND MAKE IT HARMLESS! WE WERE IN THE NICK OF TIME!
NOW THAT WASHINGTON IS SAVED, BACK TO THE KIDS!
AT THAT MOMENT, THE TORCH AND CAP LEAVE THE AIRPORT AND RACE BACK TO WHERE THEY LEFT THEIR YOUNG PALS!


GOTCHA, CAP!
HURRY, TORCH! SOMETHING'S HAPPENING UP THERE!
SOMEONE'S FALLING! I'VE GOT TO CATCH HIM!
TORCH, LOOK!
I DON'T QUITE WANT TO, CAP!
HTMY
TORCH, WHY DON'T YOU GET HIM? QUICK- YOU'VE STILL GOT TIME!
WHO - WHO IS IT!
BOYS-YOU'RE ALL O.K! WHAT HAPPENED? HOW DID YOU SLAY THE RED SKULL?
WHEN WE FOUGHT HIM, HE TURNED COWARD AND PLUNGED OFF THE CLIFF! THAT MEANS THE END OF THE RED SKULL AT LAST!
YAH SUH, KNUCKY! BOY, YOU-ALL LOVES YOU!
I DID A SWELL JOB IF I DO SAY SO ME SELF!
SO LONG, KIDS!
WE FIGHT TOGETHER THRU STORMY WEATHER TO LICK BOTH CROOKS AND SPIES WE CAN'T BE TOPPED AND WE WON'T BE STOPPED WE ARE THE YOUNG ALLIES!
YAHOO!
THE END

"Undiscovered Treasure"

by STAN LEE

FIVE MEN started out on the treasure hunt, but they didn't know that, only one would discover the treasure alive.

It was a cold day in winter and the five men were bundled up in as warm clothes as they could find. They wore heavy coats, heavy boots, woolen mufflers and ear-muffs. Each man carried a revolver and a rifle as well as a sharp knife, for none of them knew what unexpected dangers they would encounter before their trip was over!

The leader of the party was tall and strong with fiery red hair and huge, bulging shoulders. He looked at the others and said, "Well men, we're off at last! The papers say that we're fools for making this trip, and we can't get any native guides to accompany us. Nobody believes that we'll find the treasure, but we know different, don't we?" The four others looked at him with determined gleams in their eyes and answered in one mighty cry, "You bet!"

The leader went to the door of the cottage and flung it open. "If any of you have cold feet this is the time to turn back," he said, "Because once we reach the hidden valley there will be no turning back!" He said that last with a meaning look at all four of the other men who withered a little under his stern gaze, but none of them offered to back out or leave the party!

He left first and the four others started to walk out after him. The first to follow was Pierre. No one knew what Pierre's last name was—or indeed if he had a last name. Pierre was short, dark and quiet. He never spoke unless it was absolutely necessary and unless you actually saw him you would not know he was in the same room as you. But Pierre was a handy man with a knife and as quick as greased-lightning—therefore he was a valuable asset to the little party.

The second one to leave after the leader was Spike. Spike was a tough, hardened New York criminal who would pick a fight at the drop of a hat and could use his fists as well as anybody he had ever come up against. The lure of hidden treasure had brought Spike away from his New York haunts and into this dreary, forsaken spot, as it had done to the others.

The next one to leave was Doc. They didn't know much about Doc, except that he was once a rich and famous surgeon who had enjoyed a large practice in an exclusive section of Chicago. It was rumored that one day his knife slipped and the result ended in disaster for his patient. Since then Doc practiced surgery no more and saw his fortune slipping rapidly away. The call of sudden riches had brought him to this desolate spot in quest of fabulous treasure!

The last one to leave the cottage was Sam, the negro guide who was the leader's devoted servant. Sam had been in almost every corner of the globe with the leader and more than once had risked his life in saving the leader from terrible peril. Sam was almost as big as the leader and much more muscular. He made a valuable addition to the treasure-hunting team.

As for the leader himself, only Sam knew anything about him. Only Sam knew he was wanted by the police of every land he had ever visited. Wanted for murder, arson, forgery, blackmail, grand larceny, and scores of other crimes! Only Same knew that his leader was the most vicious killer to roam the by ways of unexplored lands! And only Sam knew that the leader planned to keep the treasure for himself when he found it and to dispose of the other three men in the party quickly and quietly!

The treasure hunt had come into being when the leader had entered a restaurant on the southern tip of Africa. In a quarrelsome mood, the big redhead picked a fight with one of the white traders, who were in the restaurant. Harsh words led to blows and before anybody could stop them, Red had pushed the trader hard enough to knock him down and cause his head to hit the edge of a table, killing him instantly.

In that little town on the southern tip of Africa, law and order were unknown and the person who could draw his gun the quickest and use his fists the best was usually right in every case, and so no punishment was afforded Red who brazenly strode over to the man he had killed and went through his pockets hoping to find something of value.

But the only thing that big Red could find was a crumbled sheet of paper in the trader's old wallet which the trader carried in his hip pocket. Quickly the huge redhead unfolded the paper and saw a crude map drawn upon it. Examining it closely, Red noticed that it was a map of Alaska. High in one corner of the map was the letter "X" and a little pencil note which read: "Location of hidden valley in which treasure lies!" Red swiftly put the crumbled paper in his pocket before anyone in the restaurant had seen what occurred. A few minutes later a stranger came over to Red and asked, "Say, bud, did you find a map in that guy's pockets?"

Big Red looked him squarely in the eye and said, "No!"

The stranger scratched his head. "Funny," he mused, "that there trader always boasted about having a map of a valuable treasure with him what would make him rich some day!"

After the stranger had left, Red did some heavy thinking. "This must be a sure enough treasure map," he thought. "Something tells me it would be worth a try to go up to Alaska and see if I can discover this hidden treasure mentioned on the map!"

And so with his huge servant, Sam, Red went up north to the Alaskan Forest where he invoked the aid of Pierre, Spike, and Doc, for the trip was too dangerous to be made by him and Sam alone!

And now the little party was all set for the great adventure! They knew that somewhere north of them was a hidden valley between two unchartered mountains in which lay a treasure of fabulous value! They didn't know how long it would take to reach the hidden valley, or what hardships they would be forced to undergo, but they did know they had promised themselves never to stop searching until they had discovered the treasure.

It had been agreed that the treasure would be divided five ways, with one fifth going to each member of the party. Only Sam knew that Red had other ideas about dividing the treasure when it was found.

And so the little band of adventurers traveled due north. For days they experienced the biting winds, the bitter cold and the icy white glare of the white snows which tortured their eyes and chilled their very nerves! For days they went without food except for a few penguins and fish which they caught. For days they traveled in the deathly cold of the fierce, frozen north, through the trackless wastes of the sinuous snows. For theirs was a journey in unchartered lands with only the stars and the moon to guide them and only the whistling wind to accompany them and follow them in their mighty quest.

After traveling for two weeks Spike suddenly cried out, "Look! Look over there! I see them! I see them!"

"What? Where? What are you talking about? What do you see?" cried Red, looking around him.

"The mountains, the mountains! Over there! See, there they are!"

The entire party turned its gaze to where Spike was pointing. Sure enough, two mountainous peaks reared their snowy white heads above the horizon! Two peaks which marked the end of the trail for the hardened travelers!

It was a matter of mere minutes before the travelers reached the peaks. Red looked at his map and then at the mountains and said with a grin, "Yes sir, this is them!" Pierre as usual said nothing, but looked at the peaks with a gleam in his eye and a quickening of his breath! Big Sam stood motionless, only his heaving chest indicating that the spark of life was still in him! Spike was nervous, fidgety, impatient to be inside the valley and searching for the treasure. Red, the leader, clenched and unclenched his fists in gestures of excitement as he surveyed the mountain peaks before him. "Well men," he roared, "What are we waiting for?"

Only Doc was motionless, expressionless, and unconcerned. He looked as if he didn't care whether or not the treasure would ever be found.

With a bored glance at Red, he said, "O.K., then, if you want to go, let's go!"

And so the five men began to encircle the mountains seeking a pass which would lead inside, to the valley of fortune. And they were lucky in finding the pass a few minutes after they began their searching. It was right in front of them, large, smooth, easy to find. "I don't see how anybody ever missed this place before," said Red, with a grin. "Well, fellows, let's go."

Into the little valley went the men taking each step slowly, as though fearful of some dangerous menace awaiting them on the other side. But it seemed as though their fears were groundless for they reached the valley in safety and without a mishap.

Inside the valley the men paused in amazement for it was the most beautiful piece of land they had ever seen! There were trees, flowers, and birds in abundance, all blended together in a haven of peace and quiet. It seemed that the foot of man had never treaded in this lovely spot.

"Boy!" cried Sam, "What a place to settle down in! No cops, no detectives, no nuttin'! Nuttin' to do but pick daisies and sleep in the sun! What a life! But where's the treasure?"

"Yeah," said Spike. "I t'ought we would find the treasure when we came to dis place, but there's nuttin' except a bunch of trees and birds! What kind of a raw deal is dis, anyhow?"

Even Pierre said something. "Mon Dieu!" "Zis place, she is a disappointment! I expected to see zee streets littered with gold, but instead, I find nothing but zee little grass! Ventre-bleu, I am peeved!"

Red, the leader, waited a minute before he spoke, and then he said, "I'm surprised myself! I can't understand it! The map says that there's treasure right in the valley, but I don't see nothing!" Then Red looked at Doc closely. "Say, Doc," he said, "You ain't said nothing,—what do you think?"

Doc looked at the men and said easily, "Oh, I don't know, perhaps the treasure is here and you can't see it!"

The others stared at him in surprise. "What are you getting at?" asked Spike. "I don't get your point!"

Doc puffed at his cigarette calmly. "Oh I don't know," he said. "I'm always saying foolish things. Just don't pay any attention to me."

But Red would not stand to be disappointed. He had come here to find treasure and he made up his mind to find it. He ordered all the men to grab shovels and start digging, telling them that there must be something hidden in the ground.

"You're wasting your time, Red," advised Doc. "You won't find anything there!"

But the others disregarded him and began to dig.

After a full week of digging they discovered nothing. Big Sam was the first to crack under the strain. He went up to Red and said, "You promised me these guys' share of the treasure when we found it, and now there's no treasure. You tricked me, that's what you did!"

"Shut up, you fool!" hissed Red. "You want the others to hear you!"

But Red was too late. The others had already heard, and Spike lunged with his mighty fists and hammered them at Red's throat. "You lying cheat!" he cried, "You figured you would take away our share of the treasure, too! Well, take this—and this!" cried Spike, as he hammered blow after blow into the unprotected face of Red!

One crushing blow snapped Red's head over backwards and with a muffled cry he sank to the ground, dead, a victim of the same type of punishment he had so viciously given to others. In an instant the huge Sam leaped upon Spike and began to crush him with his gorilla-like arms! "Hurt my master, will you?" raved the huge Sam! "I'll kill you for that!" But just as Sam cracked Spike's ribs in a crushing grip, a thin, razor-sharp dagger landed in his back and he fell to the ground without a sound!

Pierre walked up to the Doctor. "Well, Doc," he smiled, "zat takes care of Red, and Spike, and Sam! I guess zere is only you and me left!" The little Frenchman grinned weakly. "And I don't imagine zat I will be here much longer," he muttered, "'cause zee Doctor warned me I must never excite myself or my heart, she will . . . ugh—!" The little Frenchman began to sag to the ground! "Ugh my heart, she is failing me now, goodbye, Monsieur, goodbye . . . !"

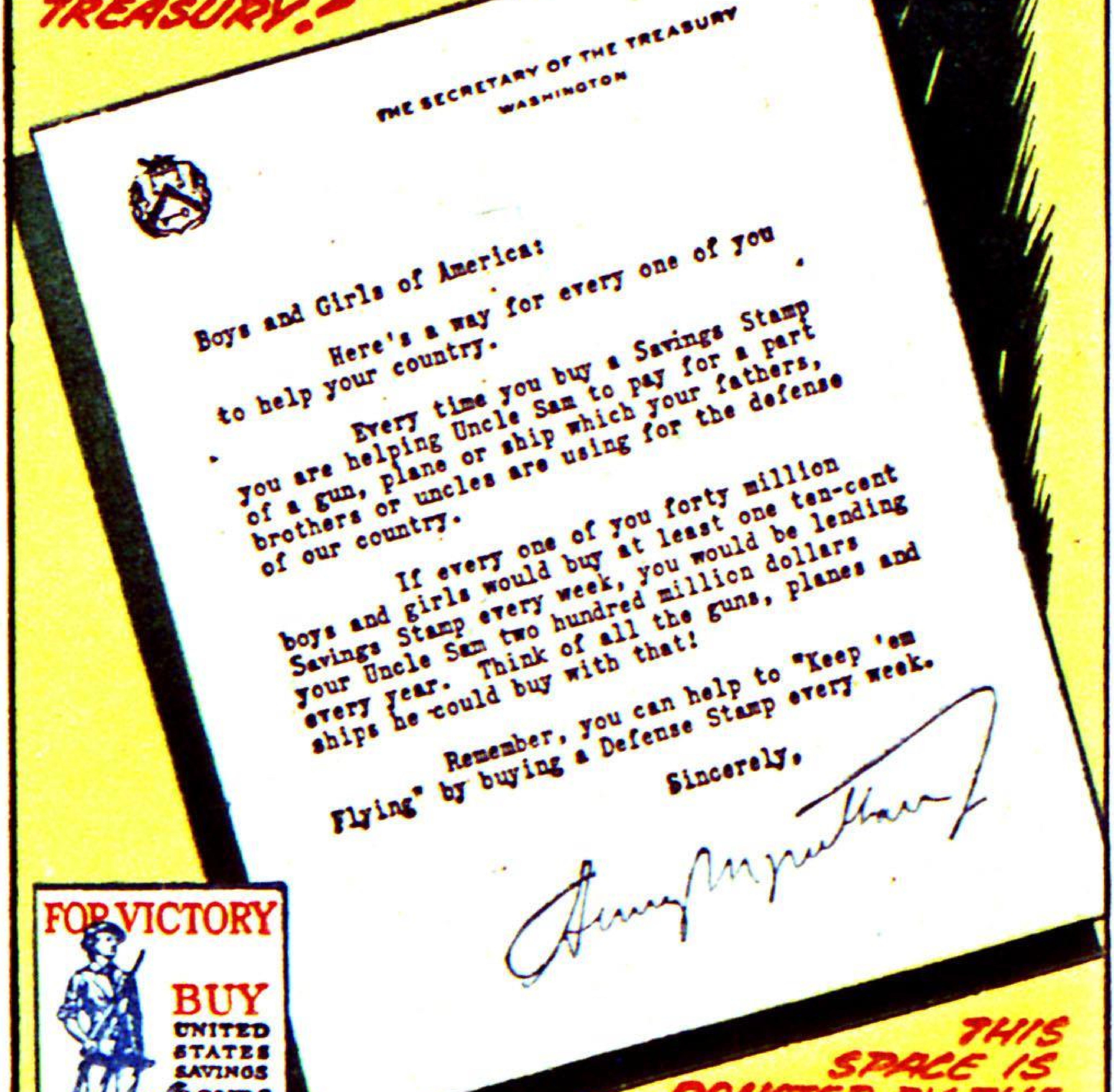
The next day all four men were laying peacefully under the earth which covered the beautiful valley. The lone figure of the Doctor stood above their graves.

"It's strange the way this happened," he thought. "All four of them came here seeking the treasure and all four of them died thinking that they had failed in their search!"

The Doctor raised his eyes to the skies above him and whispered, "but they didn't realize that their treasure was here all the time. They didn't realize that the peace and quiet and beauty of this valley represents that which man is ever seeking and ever unable to find! They didn't realize that they had found their treasure, and had thrown it away!"

A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO THE BOYS and GIRLS OF AMERICA FROM HENRY MORGENTHAU, JR.

-SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY!



THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

Boys and Girls of America:

Here's a way for every one of you to help your country.

Every time you buy a Savings Stamp you are helping Uncle Sam to pay for a part of a gun, plane or ship which your fathers, brothers or uncles are using for the defense of our country.

If every one of you forty million boys and girls would buy at least one ten-cent Savings Stamp every week, you would be lending your Uncle Sam two hundred million dollars every year. Think of all the guns, planes and ships he could buy with that!

Remember, you can help to "Keep 'em Flying" by buying a Defense Stamp every week.

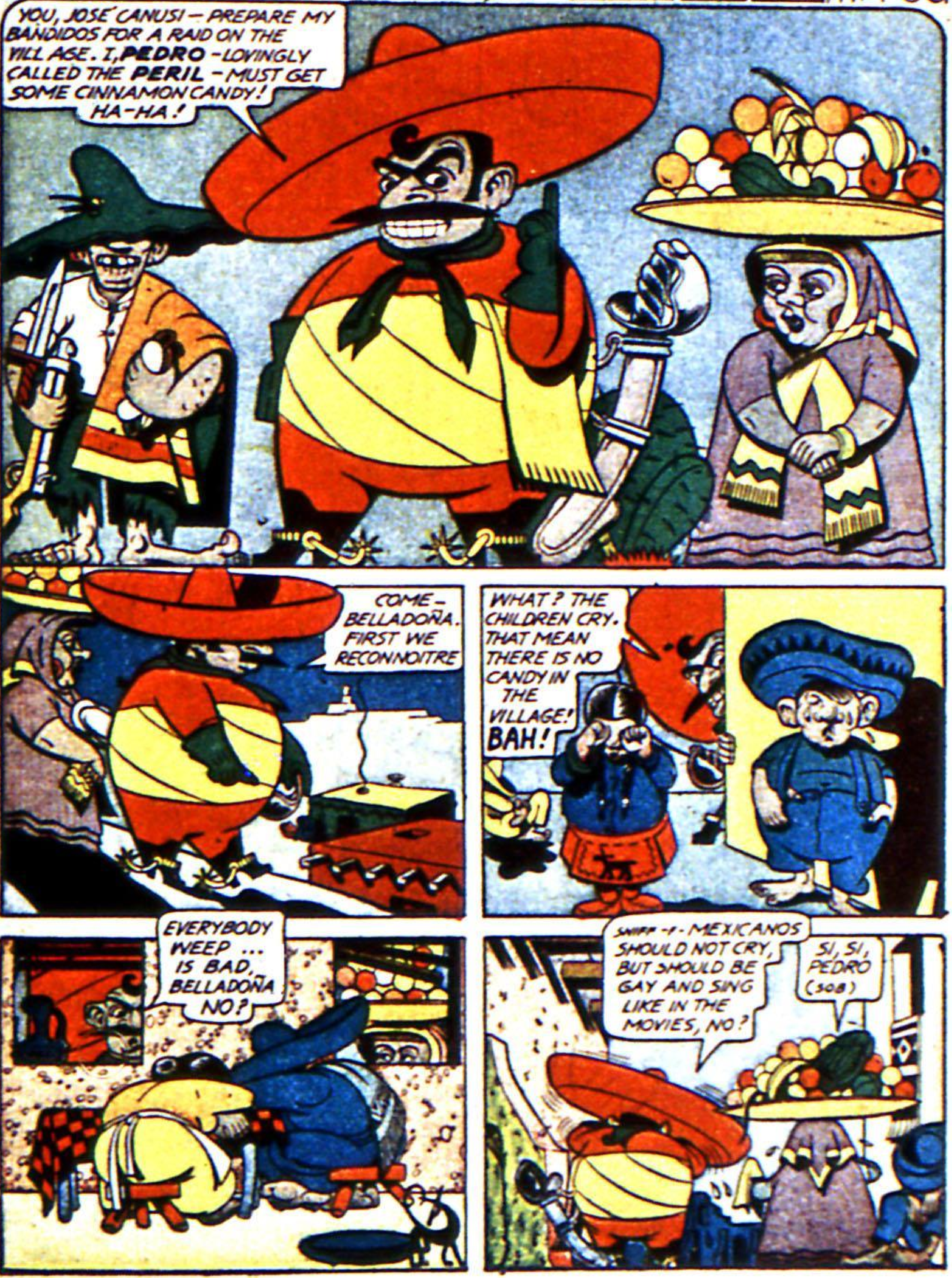
Sincerely,

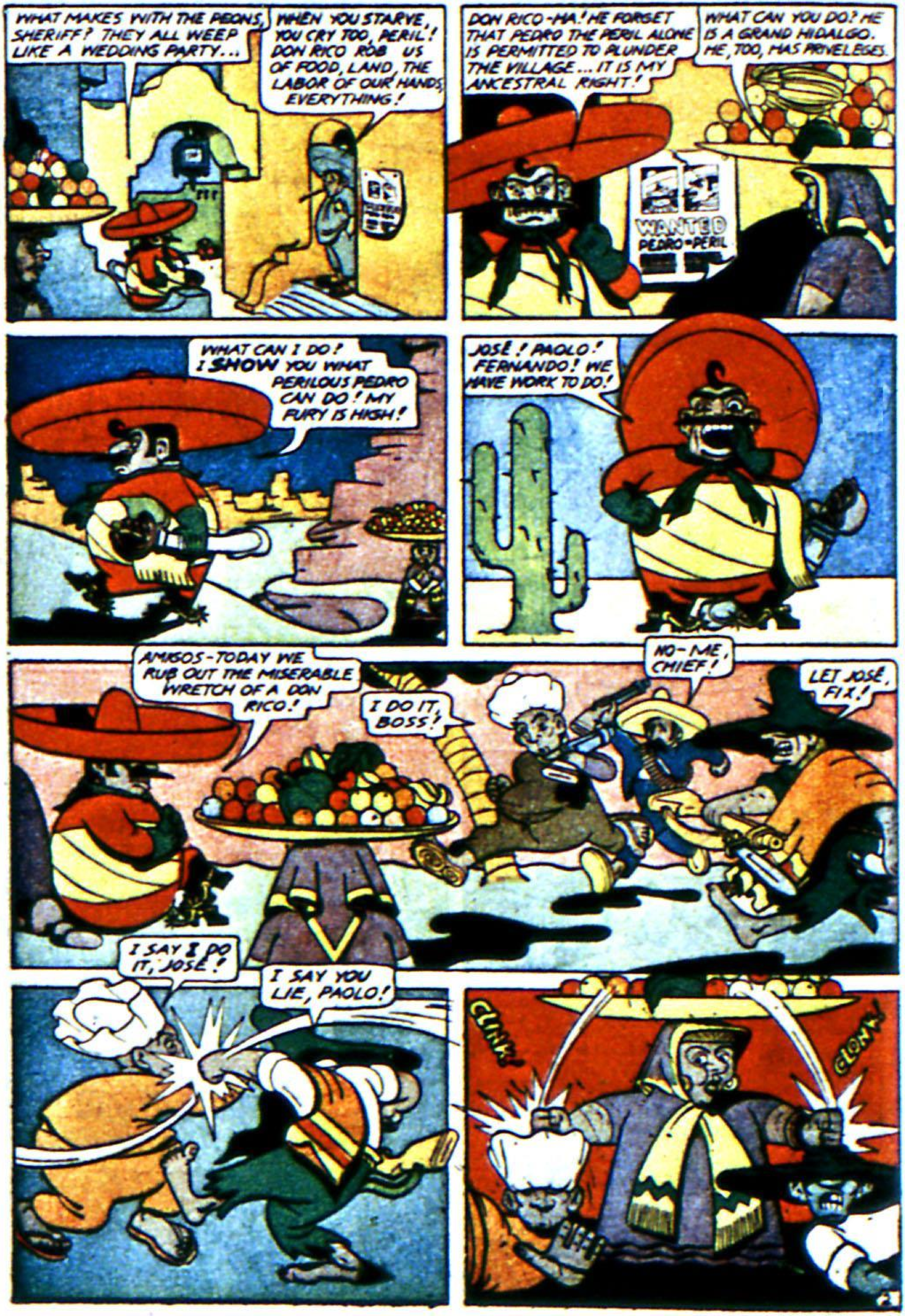
Henry Morgenthau Jr

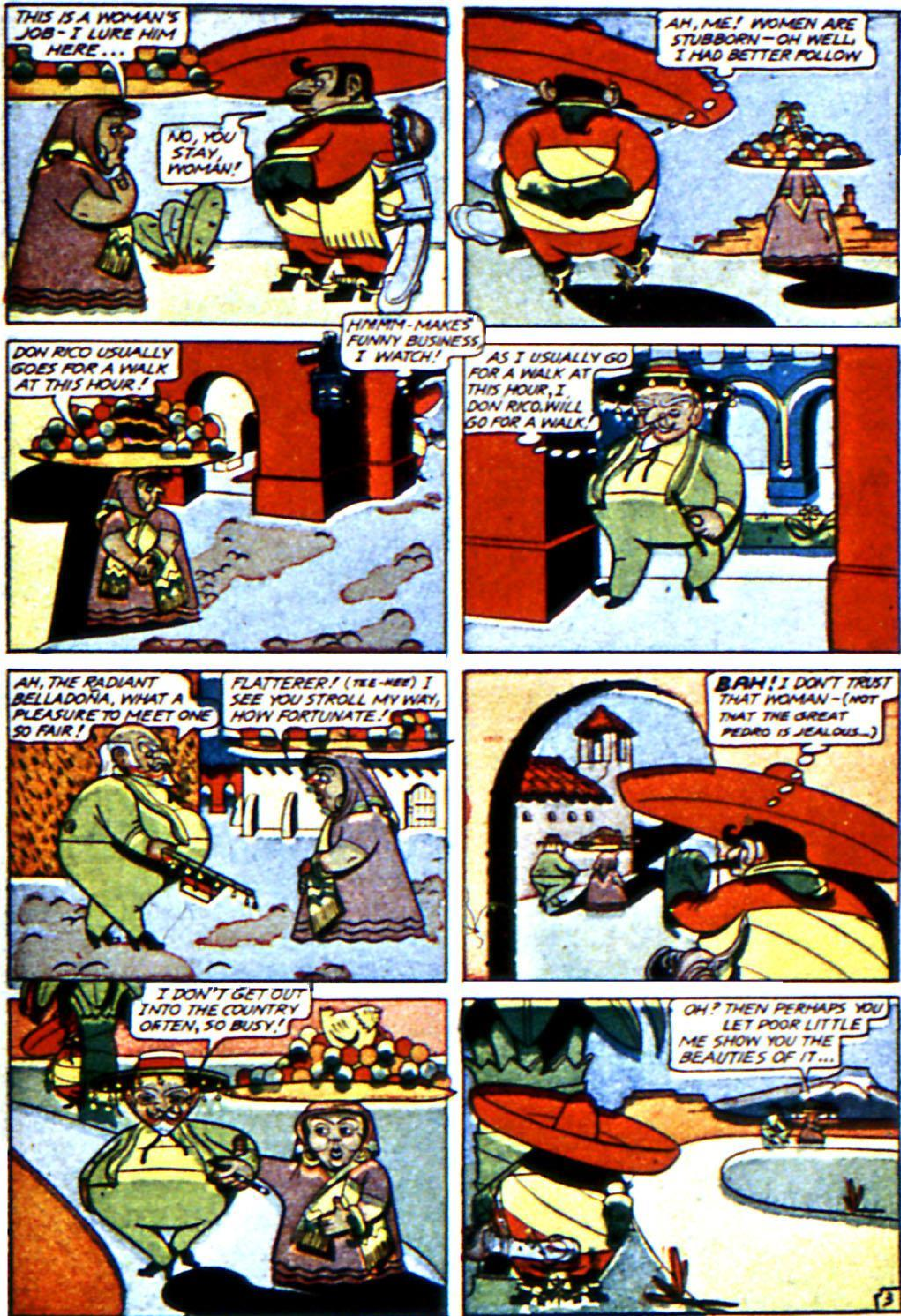
THIS SPACE IS DONATED BY THE PUBLISHERS OF THIS MAGAZINE IN THE INTEREST OF NATIONAL DEFENSE and VICTORY!

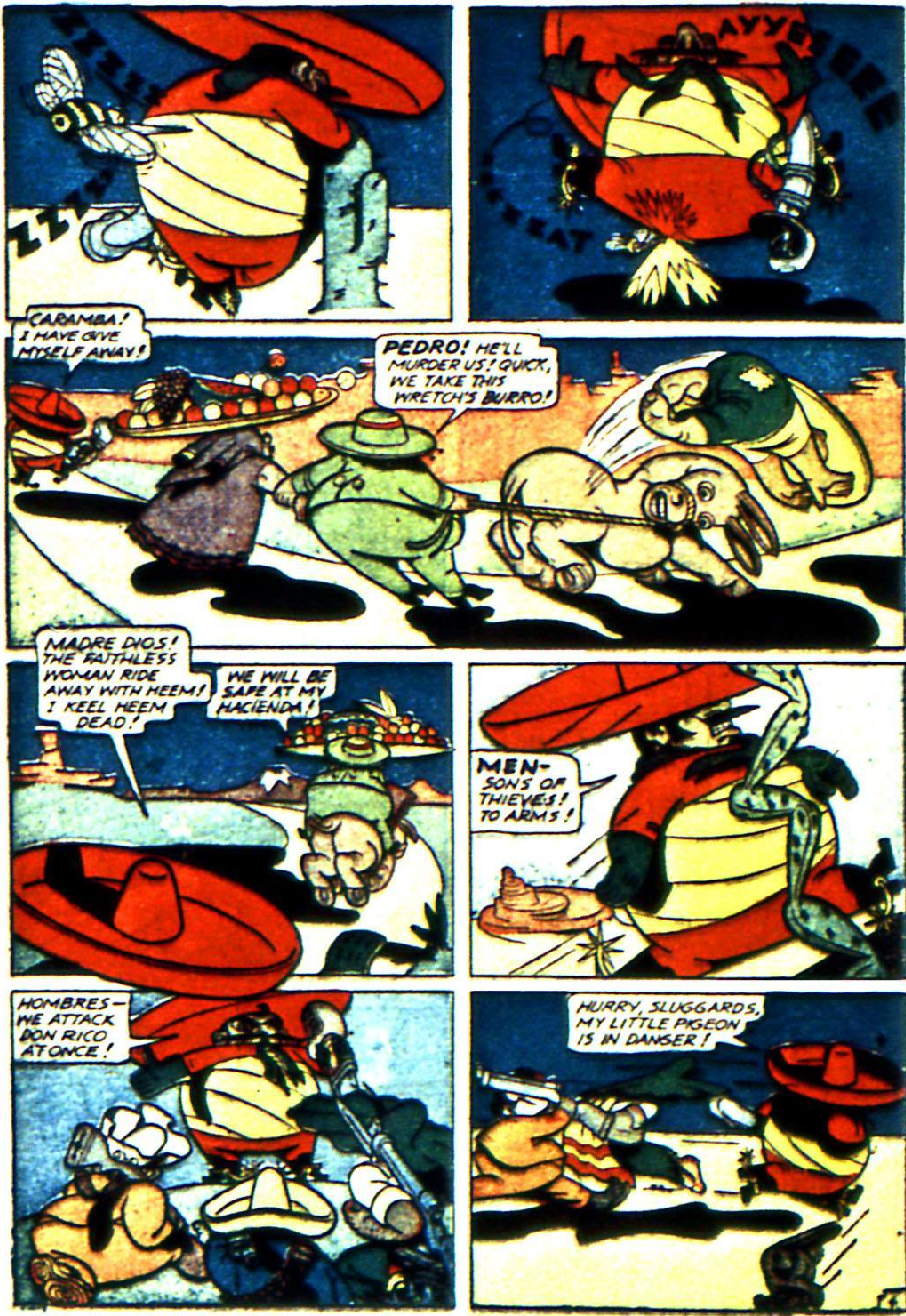
PEDRO the PERIL

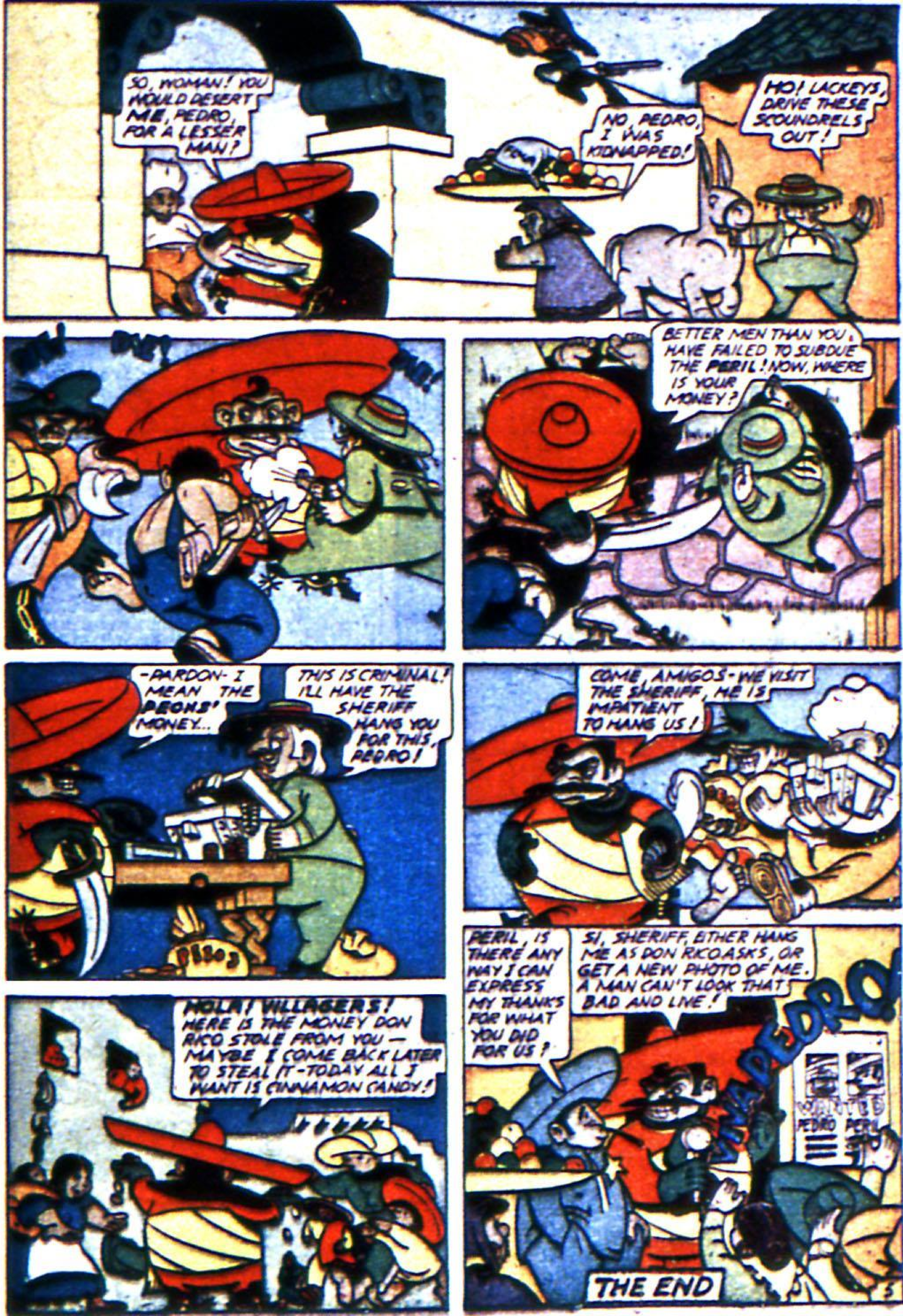
by McFred


YOU, JOSÉ CANUSI — PREPARE MY BANDIDOS FOR A RAID ON THE VILLAGE. I, PEDRO — LOVINGLY CALLED THE PERIL — MUST GET SOME CINNAMON CANDY! HA-HA!
COME — BELLADOÑA. FIRST WE RECONNOITRE
WHAT? THE CHILDREN CRY. THAT MEAN THERE IS NO CANDY IN THE VILLAGE! BAH!
EVERYBODY WEEP ... IS BAD, BELLADOÑA NO?
SNIFF -F- MEXICANOS SHOULD NOT CRY, BUT SHOULD BE GAY AND SING LIKE IN THE MOVIES, NO?
SI, SI, PEDRO (SOB)


WHAT MAKES WITH THE PEONS, SHERIFF? THEY ALL WEEP LIKE A WEDDING PARTY...
WHEN YOU STARVE, YOU CRY TOO, PERIL! DON RICO ROB US OF FOOD, LAND, THE LABOR OF OUR HANDS, EVERYTHING!
DON RICO-HA! HE FORGET THAT PEDRO THE PERIL ALONE IS PERMITTED TO PLUNDER THE VILLAGE... IT IS MY ANCESTRAL RIGHT!
WHAT CAN YOU DO? HE IS A GRAND HIDALGO. HE, TOO, HAS PRIVELEGES.
WANTED
PEDRO - PERIL
WHAT CAN I DO! I SHOW YOU WHAT PERILOUS PEDRO CAN DO! MY FURY IS HIGH!
JOSÉ! PAOLO! FERNANDO! WE HAVE WORK TO DO!
AMIGOS-TODAY WE RUB OUT THE MISERABLE WRETCH OF A DON RICO!
I DO IT, BOSS!
NO-ME, CHIEF!
LET JOSÉ FIX!
I SAY I DO IT, JOSÉ!
I SAY YOU LIE, PAOLO!
CLINK!
CLONK!


THIS IS A WOMAN'S JOB - I LURE HIM HERE...
NO, YOU STAY, WOMAN!
AH, ME! WOMEN ARE STUBBORN - OH WELL, I HAD BETTER FOLLOW
DON RICO USUALLY GOES FOR A WALK AT THIS HOUR!
HMMM - MAKES FUNNY BUSINESS, I WATCH!
AS I USUALLY GO FOR A WALK AT THIS HOUR, I, DON RICO, WILL GO FOR A WALK!
AH, THE RADIANT BELLADOÑA, WHAT A PLEASURE TO MEET ONE SO FAIR!
FLATTERER! (TEE-HEE) I SEE YOU STROLL MY WAY, HOW FORTUNATE!
BAH! I DON'T TRUST THAT WOMAN - (NOT THAT THE GREAT PEDRO IS JEALOUS...)
I DON'T GET OUT INTO THE COUNTRY OFTEN, SO BUSY!
OH? THEN PERHAPS YOU LET POOR LITTLE ME SHOW YOU THE BEAUTIES OF IT...
3


ZZZZZ
ZZZZ
AYYEEEEE
CARAMBA! I HAVE GIVE MYSELF AWAY!
PEDRO! HE'LL MURDER US! QUICK, WE TAKE THIS WRETCH'S BURRO!
MADRE DIOS! THE FAITHLESS WOMAN RIDE AWAY WITH HEEM! I KEEL HEEM DEAD!
WE WILL BE SAFE AT MY HACIENDA!
MEN-SONS OF THIEVES! TO ARMS!
HOMBRES-WE ATTACK DON RICO AT ONCE!
HURRY, SLUGGARDS, MY LITTLE PIGEON IS IN DANGER!


SO, WOMAN! YOU WOULD DESERT **ME**, PEDRO, FOR A LESSER MAN?
NO, PEDRO, I WAS KIDNAPPED!
HO! LACKEYS, DRIVE THESE SCOUNDRELS OUT!
BETTER MEN THAN YOU HAVE FAILED TO SUBDUE THE **PERIL**! NOW, WHERE IS YOUR MONEY?
-PARDON- I MEAN THE **PEONS'** MONEY...
THIS IS CRIMINAL! I'LL HAVE THE SHERIFF HANG YOU FOR THIS, PEDRO!
PESOS
COME, AMIGOS - WE VISIT THE **SHERIFF**, ME IS IMPATIENT TO HANG US!
HOLA! VILLAGERS! HERE IS THE MONEY DON RICO STOLE FROM YOU — MAYBE I COME BACK LATER TO STEAL IT - TODAY ALL I WANT IS CINNAMON CANDY!
PERIL, IS THERE ANY WAY I CAN EXPRESS MY THANKS FOR WHAT YOU DID FOR US?
SI, SHERIFF, EITHER HANG ME AS DON RICO ASKS, OR GET A NEW PHOTO OF ME. A MAN CAN'T LOOK THAT BAD AND LIVE!
VIVA PEDRO!
WANTED
PEDRO PERIL
THE END

A BR OF HOCUS POCUS

XPLAINED BY THE FAMOUS INTERNATIONAL MAGICIAN

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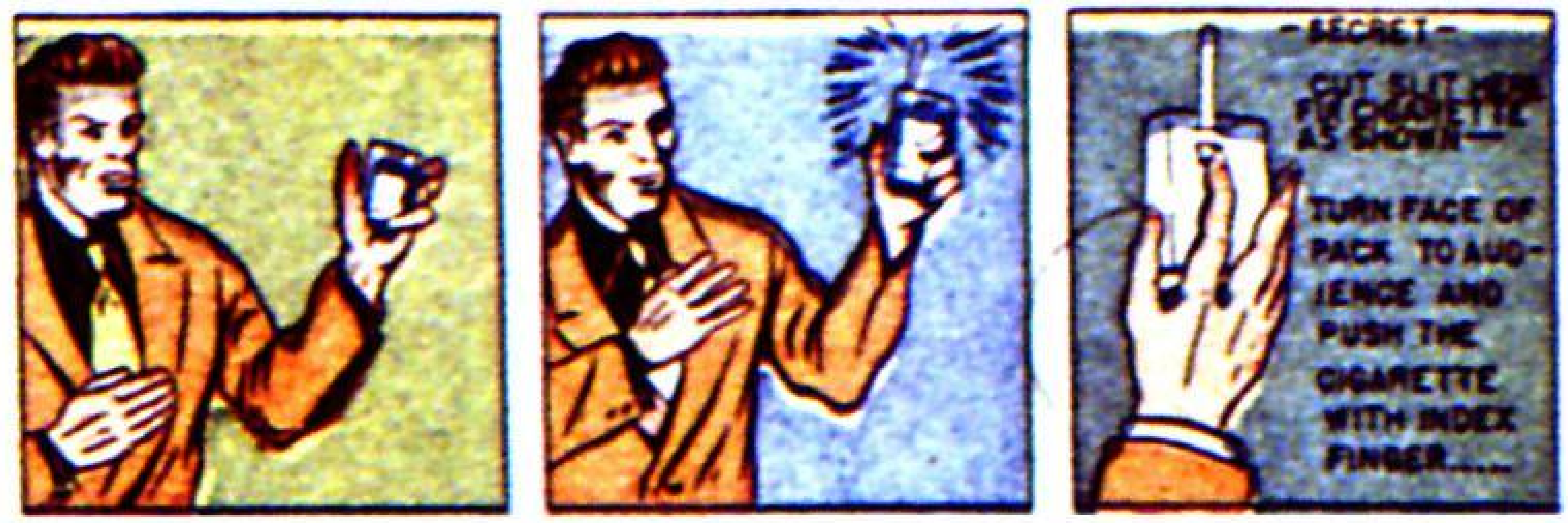
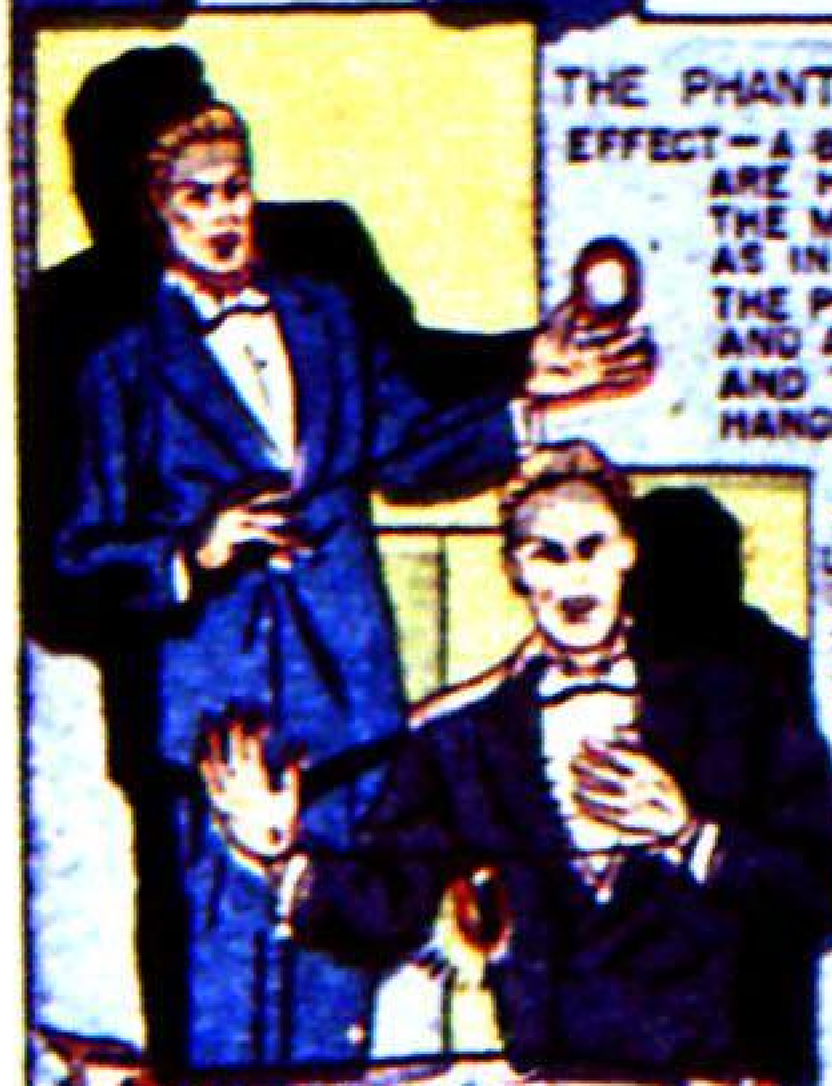
TRY THAT ONE IT'S A FOOLER!



-SECRET-

CUT SLIT HERE FOR CIGARETTE AS SHOWN—

TURN FACE OF PACK TO AUDIENCE AND PUSH THE CIGARETTE WITH INDEX FINGER.....

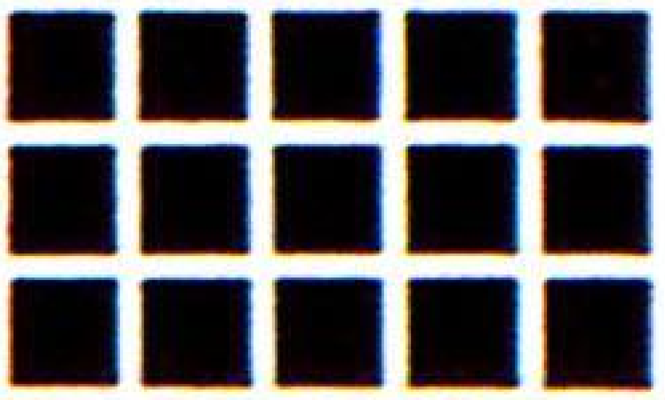


THE PHANTOM BRACELET

EFFECT—A BRACELET AND PIECE OF CORD ARE HANDED FOR EXAMINATION—THEN THE MAGICIAN'S WRISTS ARE TIED AS IN THE PICTURE ON LEFT—NOW THE PERFORMERS TURNS HIS BACK AND A MINUTE LATER TURNS ABOUT AND THE BRACELET IS SEEN TO BE HANGING FROM THE CORD—

SECRET—TWO BRACELETS ARE USED, ONE IS SLIPPED UP ONTO THE ARM UNDER THE COAT SLEEVE, NOW YOU ARE READY... WHEN YOU TURN YOUR BACK YOU MERELY CONCEAL THE EXAMINED RING UNDER THE WAISTCOAT AND PULL THE SLEEVED RING DOWN ONTO THE CORD—

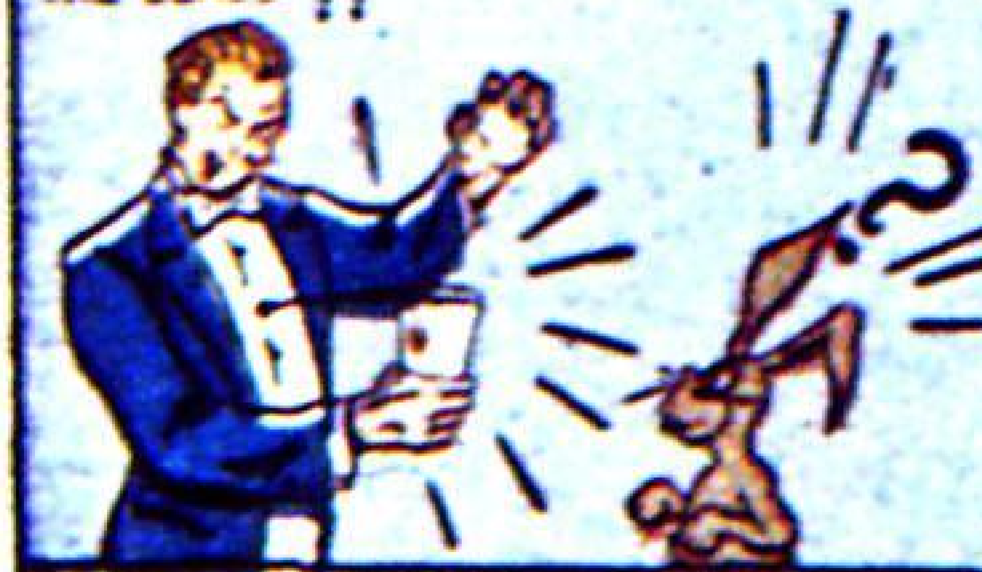
-GRAY SHADOWS-



LOOK AT THE PUZZLE ON THE RIGHT — BLACK SQUARES WITH WHITE LINES DIVIDING THEM — BUT DO YOU SEE THE LITTLE GREY SPOTS AT THE CROSSINGS OF THE WHITE LINES? THEY LOOK AS THOUGH THEY ARE REALLY THERE — BUT THEY REALLY AREN'T —

HE SPOOK COIN

A COIN IS BORROWED BY THE MAGICIAN AND DROPPED INTO A DRINKING GLASS. THE PERFORMER MAKES A FEW PASSES OVER IT AND THEN—THE COIN BEGINS TO CLIMB SLOWLY TO THE TOP OF THE GLASS !!

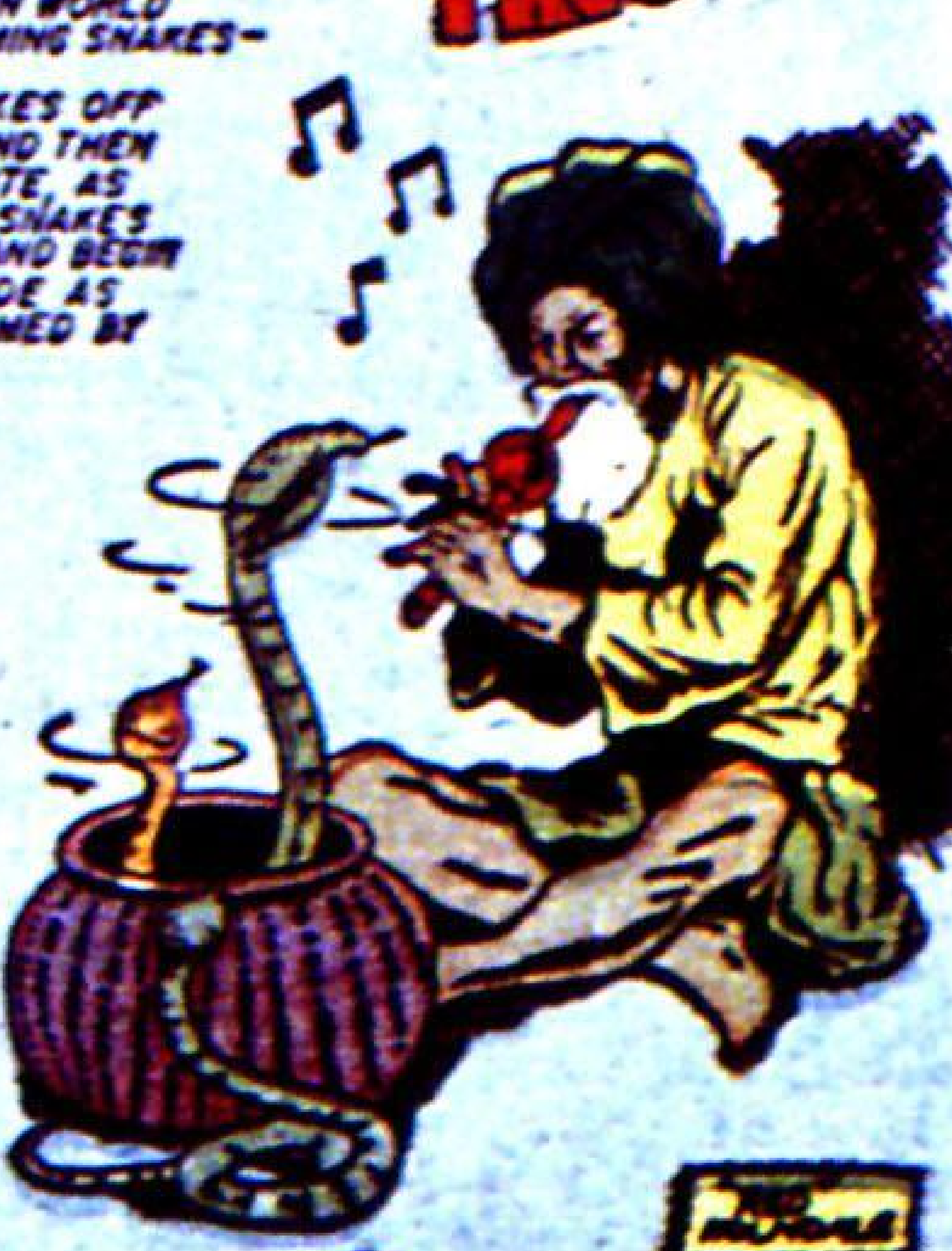


METHOD—THE TRICK IS DONE WITH THE AID OF A PIECE OF BLACK THREAD WHICH IS TIED TO THE TOPMOST BUTTON OF THE PERFORMERS' WAISTCOAT. TO THE FREE END OF THE THREAD IS AFFIXED A SMALL BALL OF SOAP OR WAX. WHEN THE COIN IS RECEIVED THE MAGICIAN PRESSES THE WAX AGAINST IT BEFORE DROPPING IT INTO THE GLASS—THEN BY MOVING THE GLASS AWAY FROM THE BODY THE COIN BEGINS TO CLIMB TO THE TOP OF THE GLASS !!

SNAKE CHARMING TRICK

ANY OF THE FAKIRS OF INDIA HAVE AMAZED THE WESTERN WORLD WITH THEIR FEAT OF CHARMING SNAKES—

EFFECT—THE MAGICIAN TAKES OFF THE LID OF A BASKET, AND THEN BEGINS TO PLAY ON A FLUTE, AS THE MUSIC BEGINS—THE SNAKES IN THE BASKET RISE UP AND BEGIN TO SWAY FROM SIDE TO SIDE AS THOUGH THEY WERE CHARMED BY THE MUSIC !!



SECRET—THE MUSIC IS REALLY ANNOYING TO THE SNAKES AND AS THE MAGICIAN SWAYS FROM SIDE TO SIDE THE SNAKES FOLLOW ATTEMPTING TO STRIKE AT THE FAKIR—THE CHARMER KNOWS—WHEN THE SNAKES ARE READY TO STRIKE, AND AT THIS POINT HE STOPS PLAYING—WITH THE MUSIC STOPPED THE SNAKES ARE SATISFIED AND SO SETTLE BACK INTO THE BASKET.....!!

HOCUS POCUS

EXPLAINED BY THE FAMOUS INTERNATIONAL MAGICIAN

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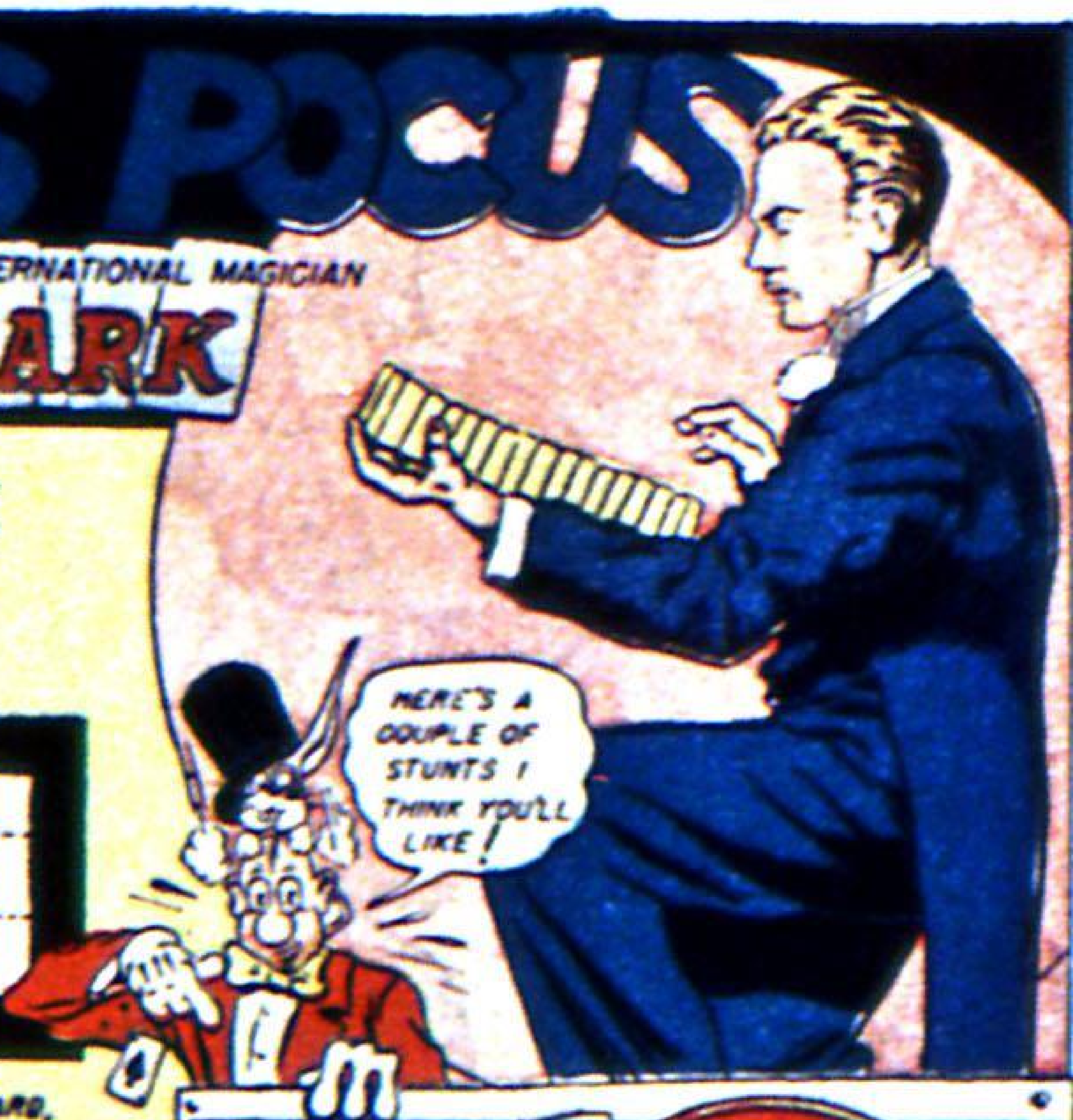
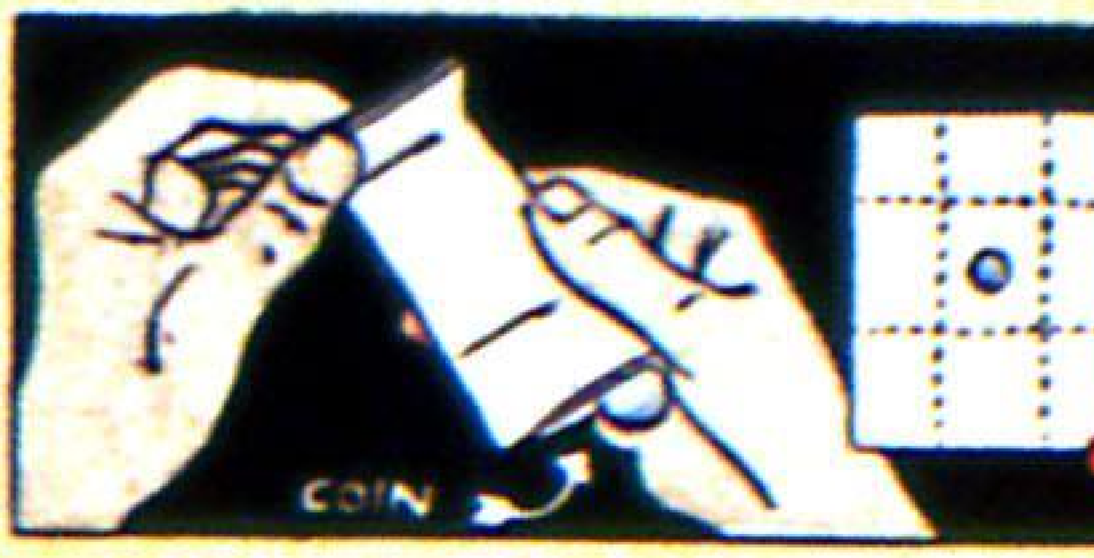
RED HOLMDALE


HERE'S A COUPLE OF STUNTS I THINK YOU'LL LIKE!

THE FLY AWAY COIN TRICK

EFFECT—A COIN IS PLACED IN THE CENTER OF A SMALL PIECE OF PAPER AND THE PAPER IS FOLDED—UPON UNFOLDING THE PAPER THE COIN IS DISCOVERED TO HAVE DISAPPEARED ANYONE MAY BE ALLOWED TO UNFOLD THE PAPER !!

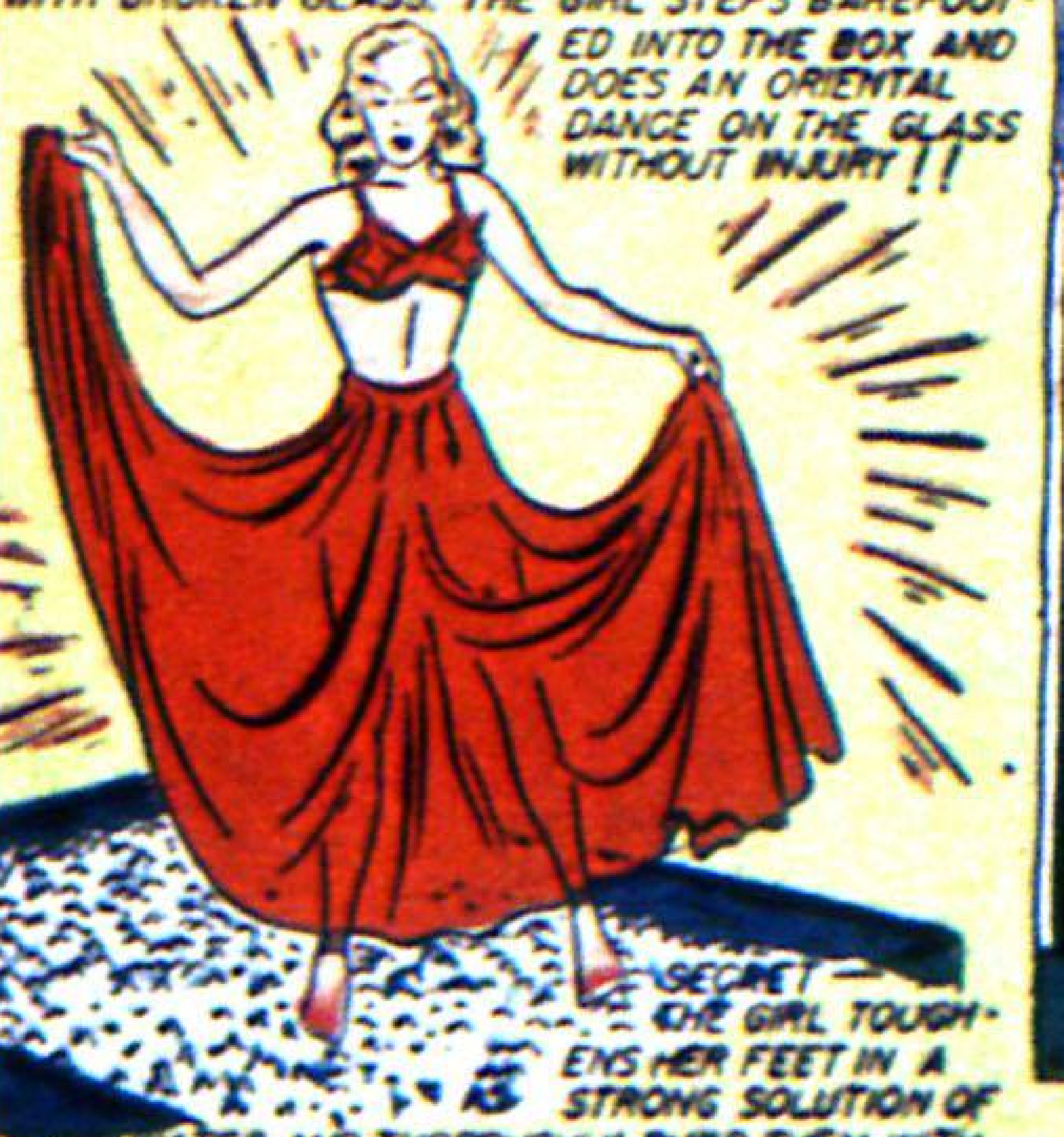


SECRET—FOLD THE SIDES OF THE PAPER INWARD, FORMING A TUBE OR SLIDE. IN BENDING DOWN THE END OF THE PAPER, LET THE COIN SLIDE SECRETLY INTO THE HAND AS IN THE PICTURE ABOVE——..........

-DANCING ON BROKEN GLASS-

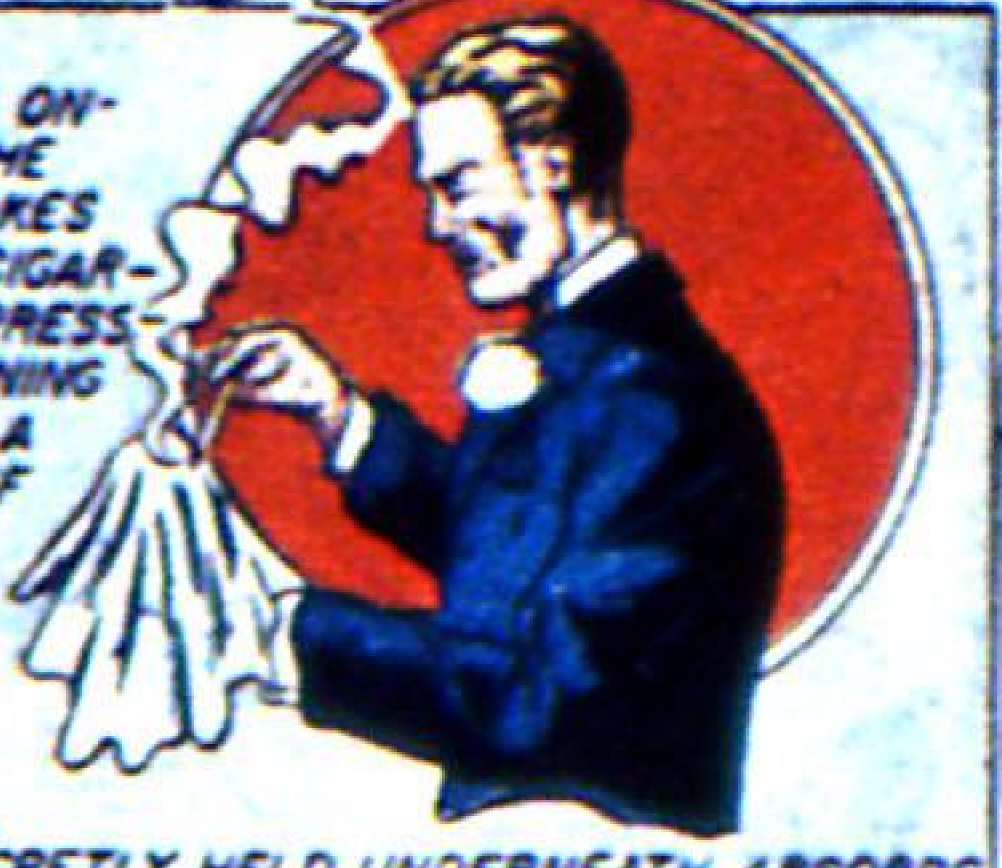
ILLUSSION

THE MAGICIAN BREAKS BOTTLES AND LAMP CHIMNEYS BEFORE THE AUDIENCE, THESE JAGGED PIECES ARE THROWN INTO A BOX ALREADY FILLED WITH BROKEN GLASS. THE GIRL STEPS BAREFOOTED INTO THE BOX AND DOES AN ORIENTAL DANCE ON THE GLASS WITHOUT INJURY!!



SECRET— THE GIRL TOUGHENS HER FEET IN A STRONG SOLUTION OF ALUM WATER AND THOROUGHLY RUBS THEM WITH PULVERIZED RESIN BEFORE SHE APPEARS. THE FRESHLY BROKEN GLASS IS THROWN AROUND THE EDGES OF THE BOX. THE DANCE IS DONE ON DULLED GLASS——...

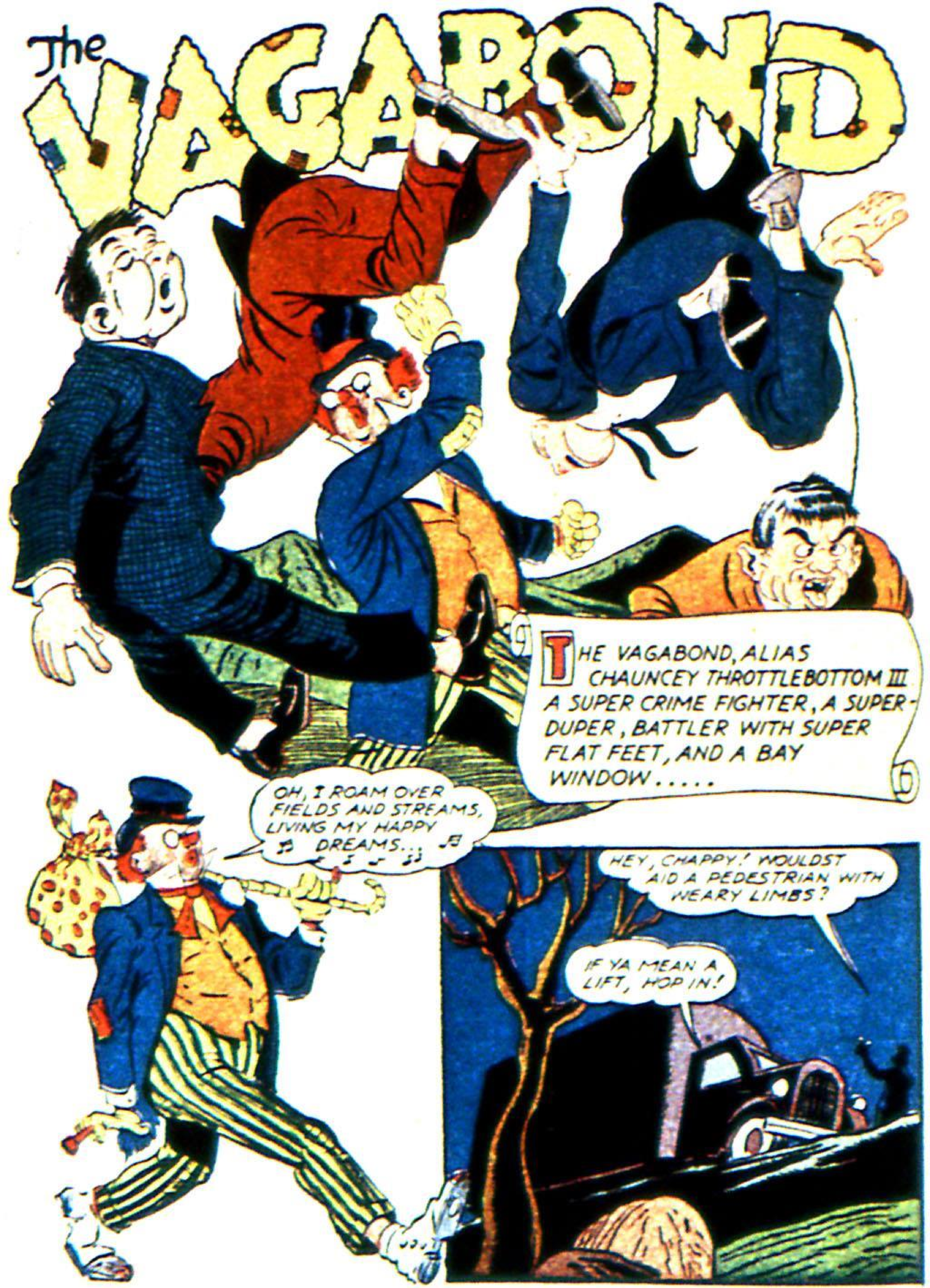
EFFECT..... STARTLING ONLOOKERS, THE MAGICIAN TAKES A GLOWING CIGARETTE AND PRESSES THE BURNING TIP AGAINST A HANKERCHIEF BUT THE HANKY DOESN'T BURN!

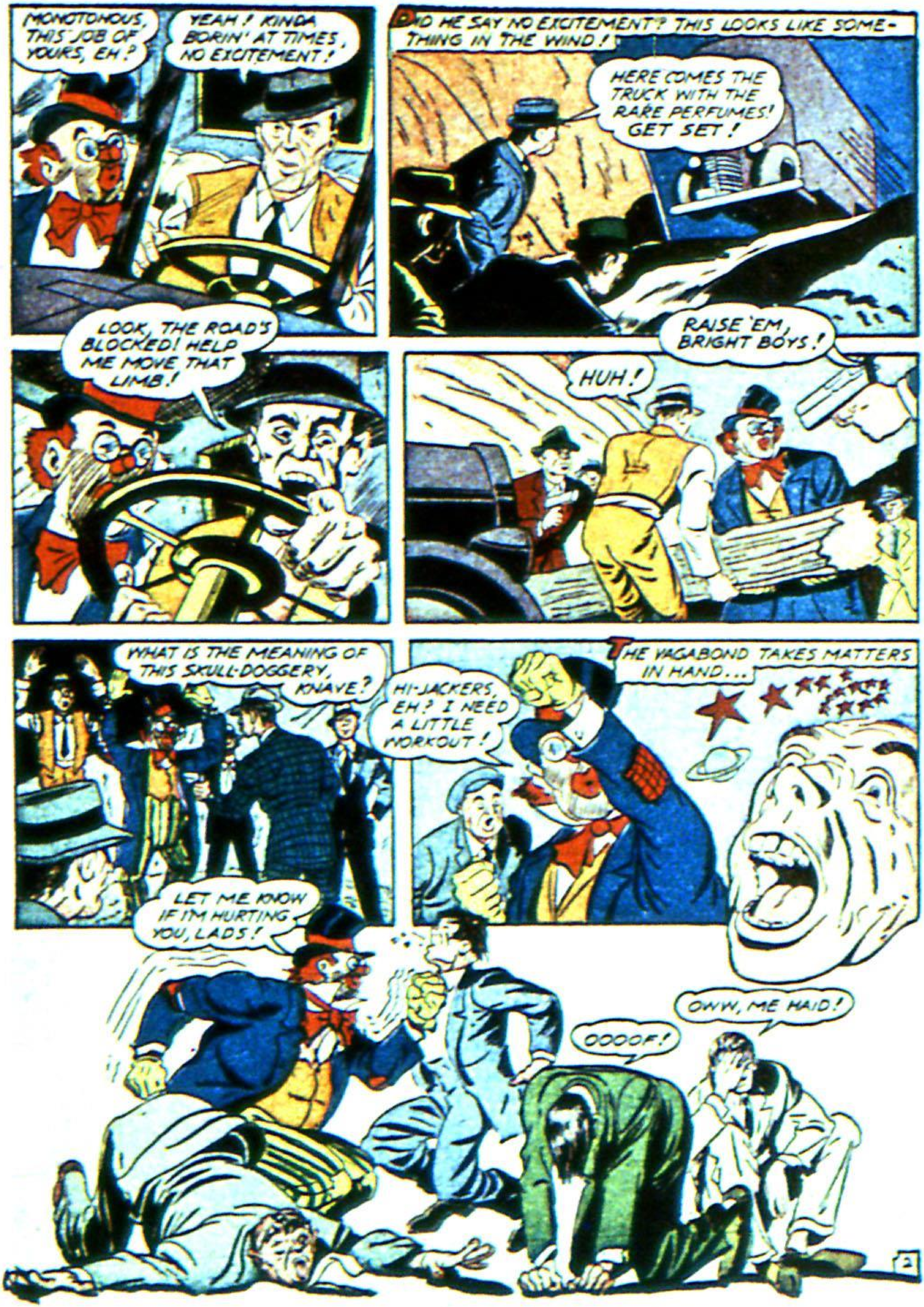


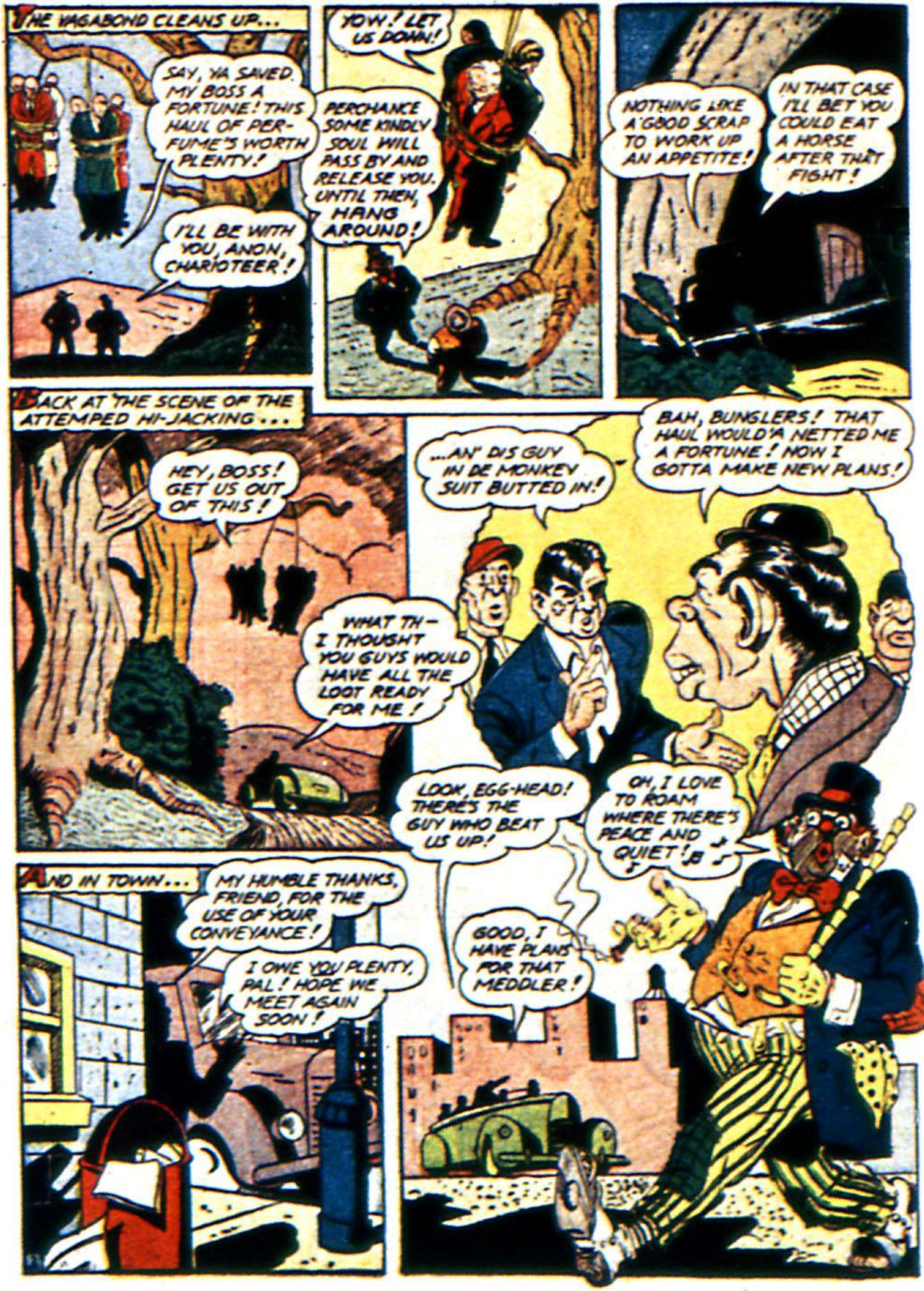
SECRET...... A COIN SECRETLY HELD UNDERNEATH ABSORBS THE HEAT, PREVENTING HANKERCHIEFS BURNING.

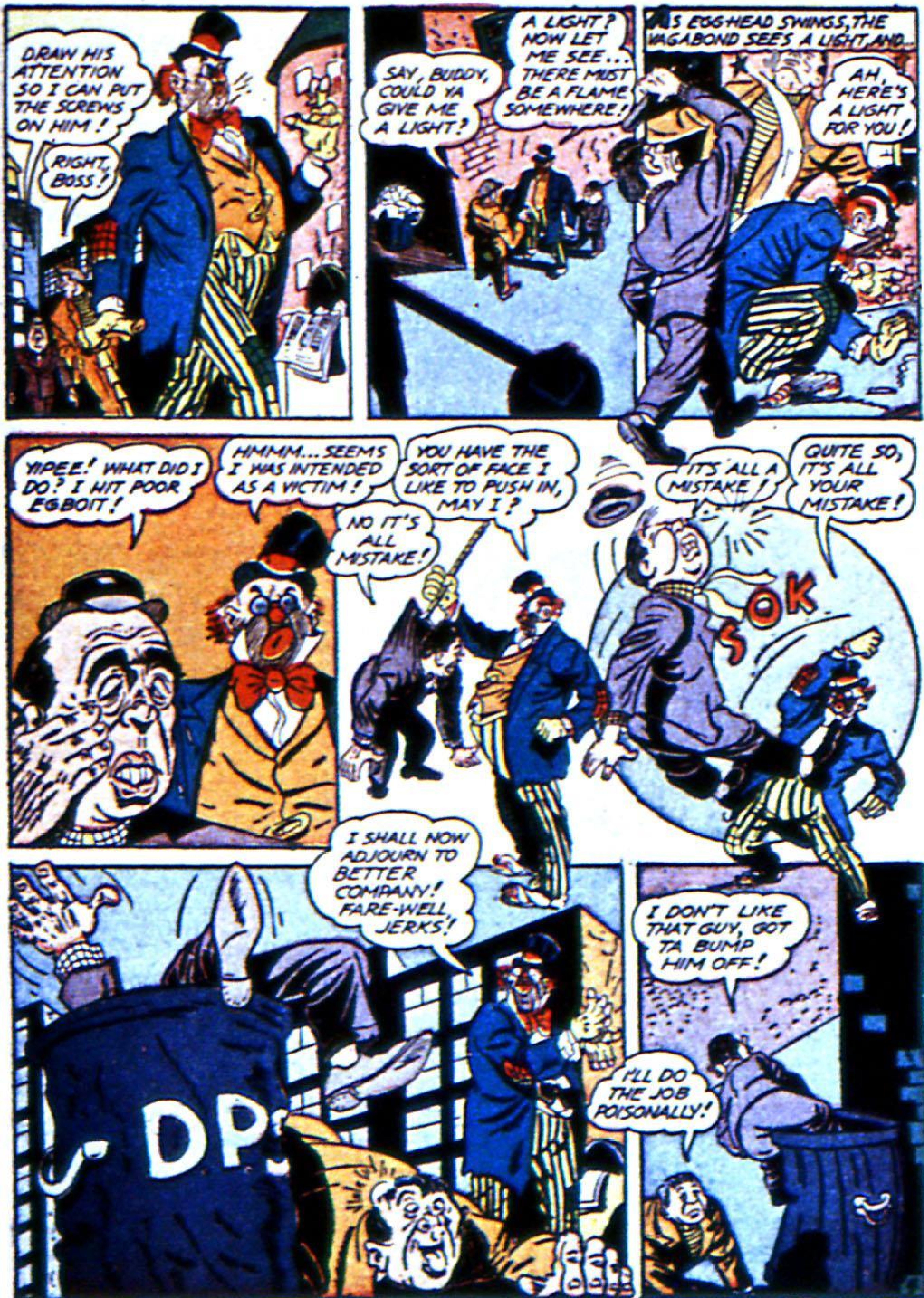
EFFECT— A LIGHTED CIGARETTE PRESSED AGAINST THE — CHEEK CAUSES NO END OF COMMENT FROM THE AUDIENCE !!

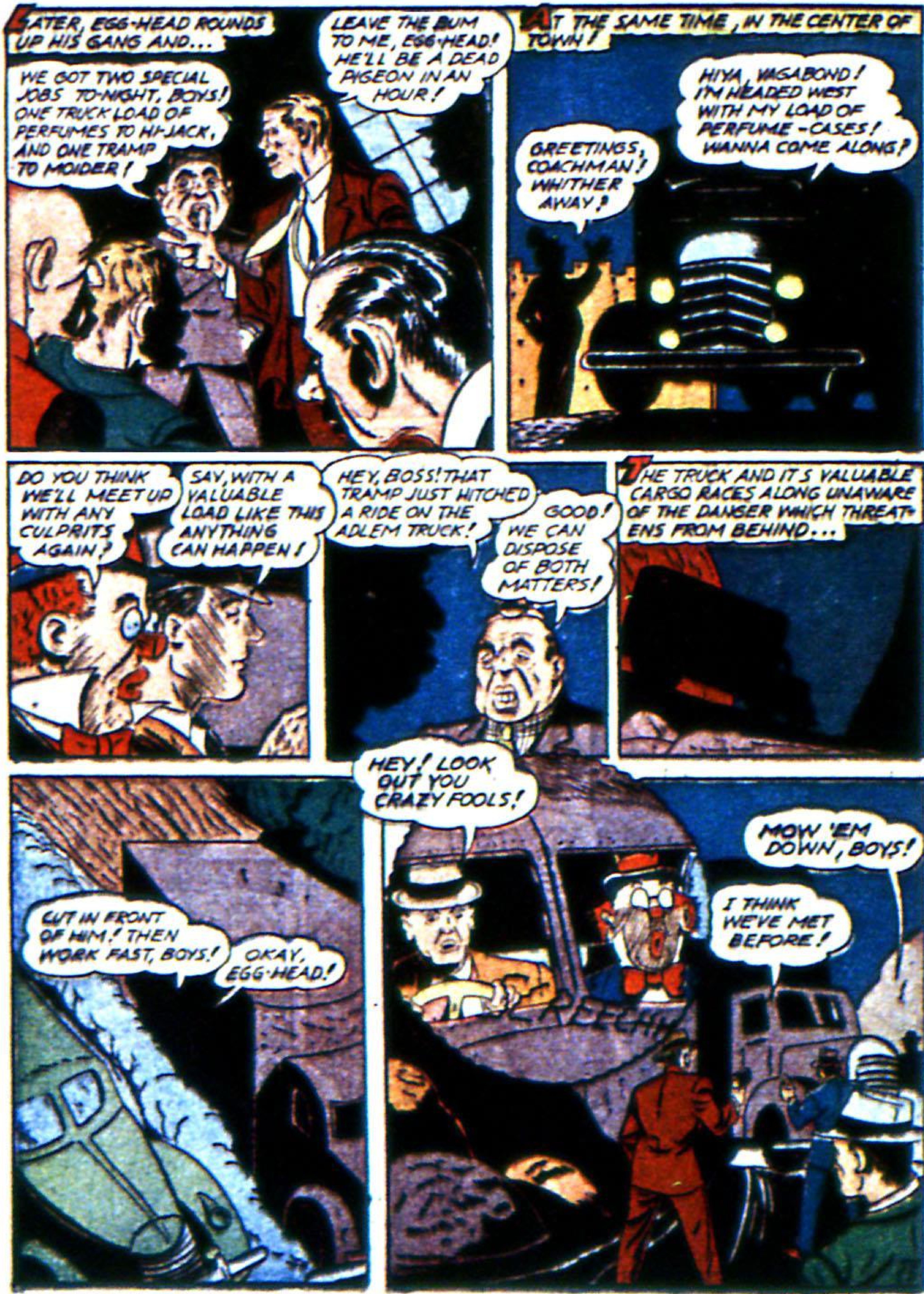
SECRET— THE ASHES ARE ALLOWED TO FORM ON THE TIP OF THE CIGARETTE, THEN IT IS DIPPED SECRETLY IN WATER. THIS MAKES THE ASHES HARDEN OVER THE GLOWING TOBACCO PROTECTING THE FACE !!

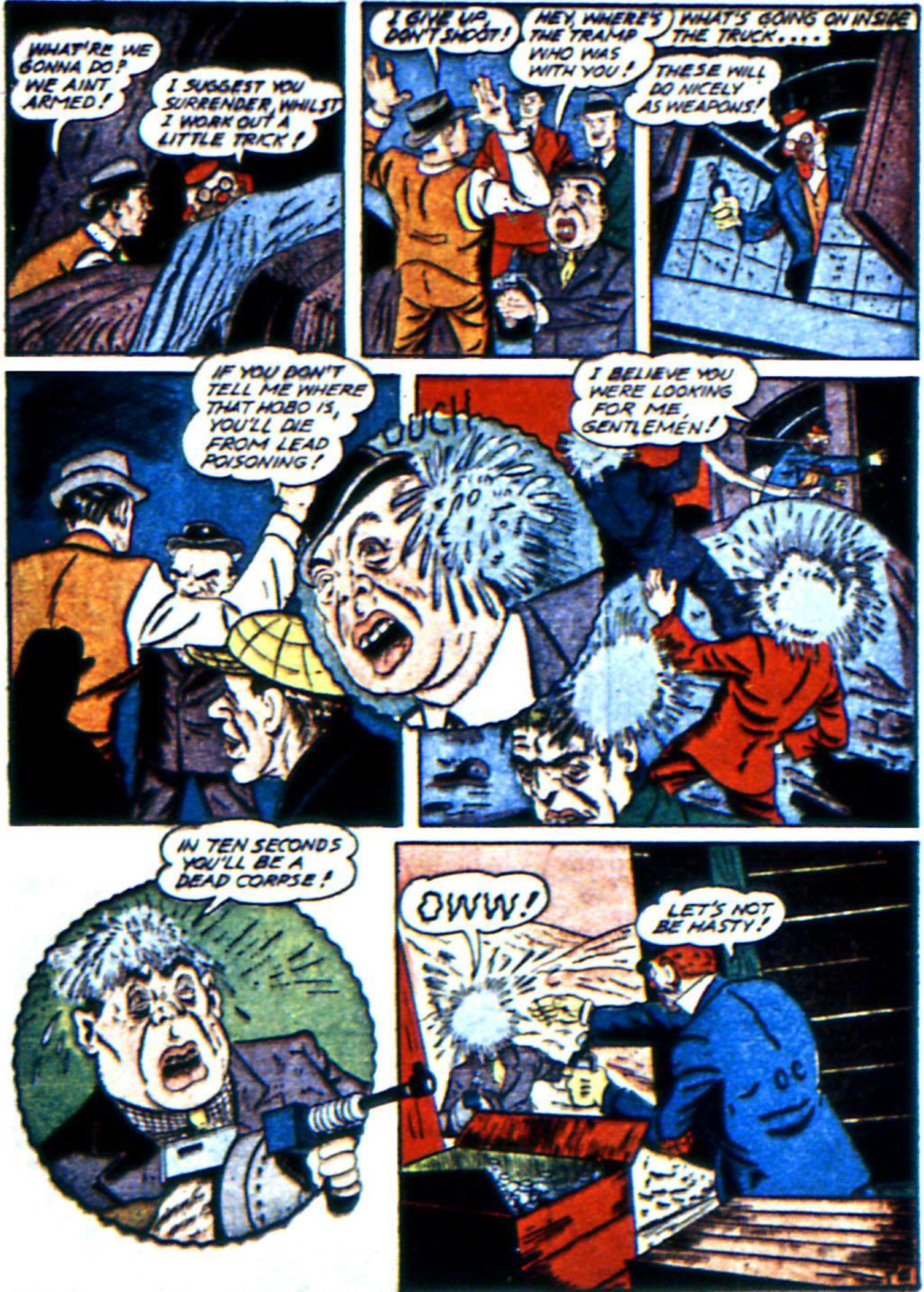

The VAGABOND
THE VAGABOND, ALIAS CHAUNCEY THROTTLEBOTTOM III A SUPER CRIME FIGHTER, A SUPER-DUPER, BATTLER WITH SUPER FLAT FEET, AND A BAY WINDOW.....
OH, I ROAM OVER FIELDS AND STREAMS, LIVING MY HAPPY DREAMS...
HEY, CHAPPY! WOULDST AID A PEDESTRIAN WITH WEARY LIMBS?
IF YA MEAN A LIFT, HOP IN!

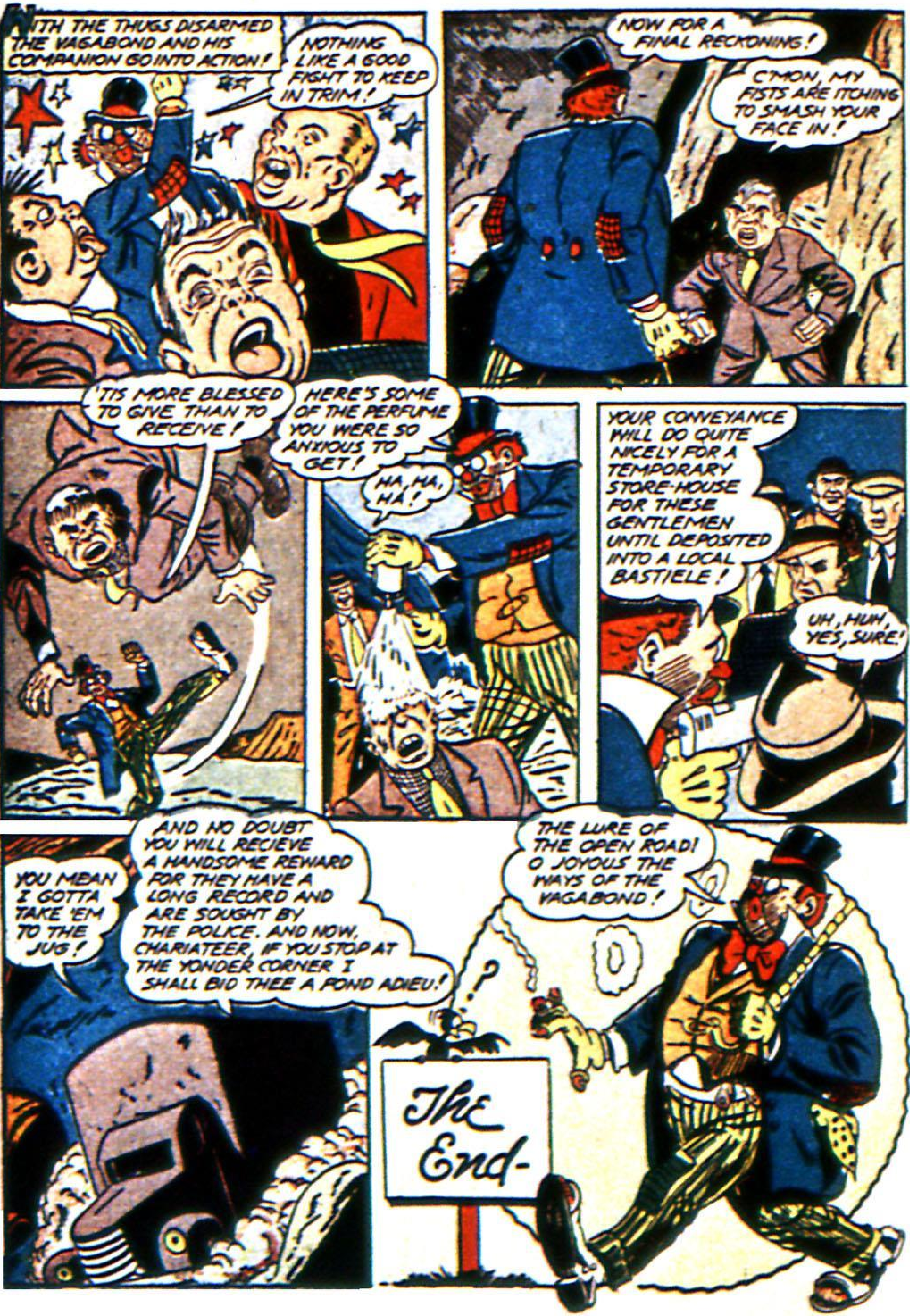

MONOTONOUS, THIS JOB OF YOURS, EH?
YEAH! KINDA BORIN' AT TIMES, NO EXCITEMENT!
DID HE SAY NO EXCITEMENT? THIS LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING IN THE WIND!
HERE COMES THE TRUCK WITH THE RARE PERFUMES! GET SET!
LOOK, THE ROAD'S BLOCKED! HELP ME MOVE THAT LIMB!
RAISE 'EM, BRIGHT BOYS!
HUH!
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS SKULL-DOGGERY, KNAVE?
THE VAGABOND TAKES MATTERS IN HAND...
HI-JACKERS, EH? I NEED A LITTLE WORKOUT!
LET ME KNOW IF I'M HURTING YOU, LADS!
OWW, ME HAID!
OOOOF!

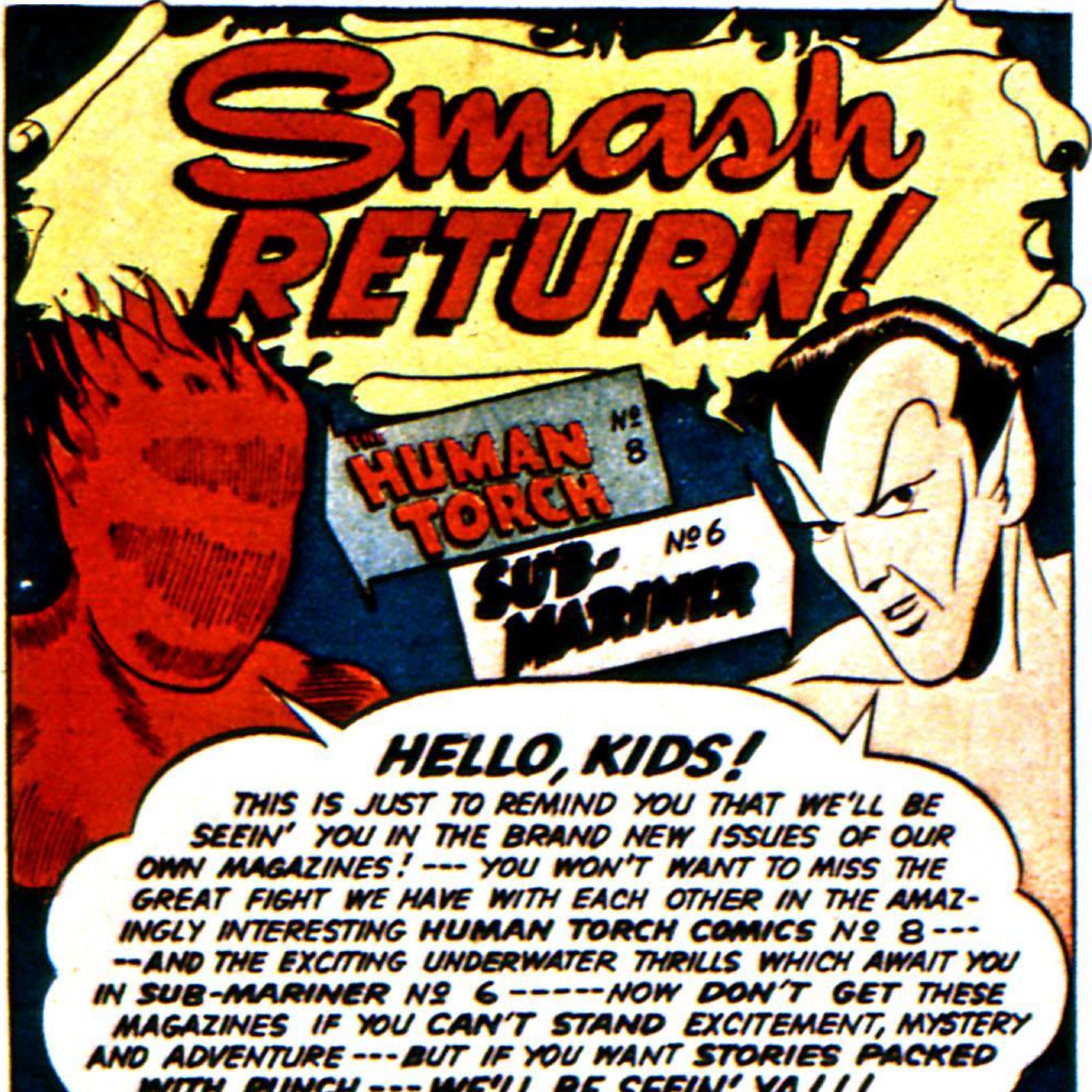

THE VAGABOND CLEANS UP...
SAY, YA SAVED MY BOSS A FORTUNE! THIS HAUL OF PERFUME'S WORTH PLENTY!
I'LL BE WITH YOU, ANON, CHARIOTEER!
YOW! LET US DOWN!
PERCHANCE SOME KINDLY SOUL WILL PASS BY AND RELEASE YOU. UNTIL THEN, HANG AROUND!
NOTHING LIKE A GOOD SCRAP TO WORK UP AN APPETITE!
IN THAT CASE I'LL BET YOU COULD EAT A HORSE AFTER THAT FIGHT!
BACK AT THE SCENE OF THE ATTEMPED HI-JACKING...
HEY, BOSS! GET US OUT OF THIS!
WHAT TH— I THOUGHT YOU GUYS WOULD HAVE ALL THE LOOT READY FOR ME!
...AN' DIS GUY IN DE MONKEY SUIT BUTTED IN!
BAH, BUNGLERS! THAT HAUL WOULD'A NETTED ME A FORTUNE! NOW I GOTTA MAKE NEW PLANS!
AND IN TOWN...
MY HUMBLE THANKS, FRIEND, FOR THE USE OF YOUR CONVEYANCE!
I OWE YOU PLENTY, PAL! HOPE WE MEET AGAIN SOON!
LOOK, EGG-HEAD! THERE'S THE GUY WHO BEAT US UP!
OH, I LOVE TO ROAM WHERE THERE'S PEACE AND QUIET! ♪♫
GOOD, I HAVE PLANS FOR THAT MEDDLER!


DRAW HIS ATTENTION SO I CAN PUT THE SCREWS ON HIM!
RIGHT, BOSS!
SAY, BUDDY, COULD YA GIVE ME A LIGHT?
A LIGHT? NOW LET ME SEE... THERE MUST BE A FLAME SOMEWHERE!
AS EGG-HEAD SWINGS, THE VAGABOND SEES A LIGHT AND...
AH, HERE'S A LIGHT FOR YOU!
YIPEE! WHAT DID I DO? I HIT POOR EGBOIT!
HMMM... SEEMS I WAS INTENDED AS A VICTIM!
YOU HAVE THE SORT OF FACE I LIKE TO PUSH IN, MAY I?
NO IT'S ALL MISTAKE!
IT'S ALL A MISTAKE!
QUITE SO, IT'S ALL YOUR MISTAKE!
SOK
I SHALL NOW ADJOURN TO BETTER COMPANY! FARE-WELL, JERKS!
DPS
I DON'T LIKE THAT GUY, GOT TA BUMP HIM OFF!
I'LL DO THE JOB POISONALLY!


LATER, EGG-HEAD ROUNDS UP HIS GANG AND...
WE GOT TWO SPECIAL JOBS TO-NIGHT, BOYS! ONE TRUCK LOAD OF PERFUMES TO HI-JACK, AND ONE TRAMP TO MOIDER!
LEAVE THE BUM TO ME, EGG-HEAD! HE'LL BE A DEAD PIGEON IN AN HOUR!
AT THE SAME TIME, IN THE CENTER OF TOWN!
GREETINGS, COACHMAN! WHITHER AWAY?
HIYA, VAGABOND! I'M HEADED WEST WITH MY LOAD OF PERFUME-CASES! WANNA COME ALONG?
DO YOU THINK WE'LL MEET UP WITH ANY CULPRITS AGAIN?
SAY, WITH A VALUABLE LOAD LIKE THIS ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN!
HEY, BOSS! THAT TRAMP JUST HITCHED A RIDE ON THE ADLEM TRUCK!
GOOD! WE CAN DISPOSE OF BOTH MATTERS!
THE TRUCK AND IT'S VALUABLE CARGO RACES ALONG UNAWARE OF THE DANGER WHICH THREATENS FROM BEHIND...
CUT IN FRONT OF HIM! THEN WORK FAST, BOYS!
OKAY, EGG-HEAD!
HEY! LOOK OUT YOU CRAZY FOOLS!
MOW 'EM DOWN, BOYS!
I THINK WE'VE MET BEFORE!


WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO? WE AINT ARMED!
I SUGGEST YOU SURRENDER, WHILST I WORK OUT A LITTLE TRICK!
I GIVE UP, DON'T SHOOT!
HEY, WHERE'S THE TRAMP WHO WAS WITH YOU!
WHAT'S GOING ON INSIDE THE TRUCK....
THESE WILL DO NICELY AS WEAPONS!
IF YOU DON'T TELL ME WHERE THAT HOBO IS, YOU'LL DIE FROM LEAD POISONING!
OUCH
I BELIEVE YOU WERE LOOKING FOR ME, GENTLEMEN!
IN TEN SECONDS YOU'LL BE A DEAD CORPSE!
OWW!
LET'S NOT BE HASTY!


WITH THE THUGS DISARMED THE VAGABOND AND HIS COMPANION GO INTO ACTION!
NOTHING LIKE A GOOD FIGHT TO KEEP IN TRIM!
NOW FOR A FINAL RECKONING!
C'MON, MY FISTS ARE ITCHING TO SMASH YOUR FACE IN!
'TIS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE!
HERE'S SOME OF THE PERFUME YOU WERE SO ANXIOUS TO GET!
HA, HA, HA!
YOUR CONVEYANCE WILL DO QUITE NICELY FOR A TEMPORARY STORE-HOUSE FOR THESE GENTLEMEN UNTIL DEPOSITED INTO A LOCAL BASTIELE!
UH, HUH, YES, SURE!
YOU MEAN I GOTTA TAKE 'EM TO THE JUG!
AND NO DOUBT YOU WILL RECIEVE A HANDSOME REWARD FOR THEY HAVE A LONG RECORD AND ARE SOUGHT BY THE POLICE. AND NOW, CHARIATEER, IF YOU STOP AT THE YONDER CORNER I SHALL BID THEE A FOND ADIEU!
THE LURE OF THE OPEN ROAD! O JOYOUS THE WAYS OF THE VAGABOND!
?
The End-


Smash RETURN!
THE HUMAN TORCH Nº 8
SUB-MARINER Nº 6
HELLO, KIDS!
THIS IS JUST TO REMIND YOU THAT WE'LL BE SEEIN' YOU IN THE BRAND NEW ISSUES OF OUR OWN MAGAZINES! --- YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THE GREAT FIGHT WE HAVE WITH EACH OTHER IN THE AMAZINGLY INTERESTING HUMAN TORCH COMICS Nº 8 --- --AND THE EXCITING UNDERWATER THRILLS WHICH AWAIT YOU IN SUB-MARINER Nº 6 -----NOW DON'T GET THESE MAGAZINES IF YOU CAN'T STAND EXCITEMENT, MYSTERY AND ADVENTURE ---BUT IF YOU WANT STORIES PACKED WITH PUNCH ---WE'LL BE SEEIN' YA!!!

--JUST A SAMPLE!
THAT ISLAND! IT'S MOVING!

ON SALE SOON! AT YOUR NEWSSTAND!

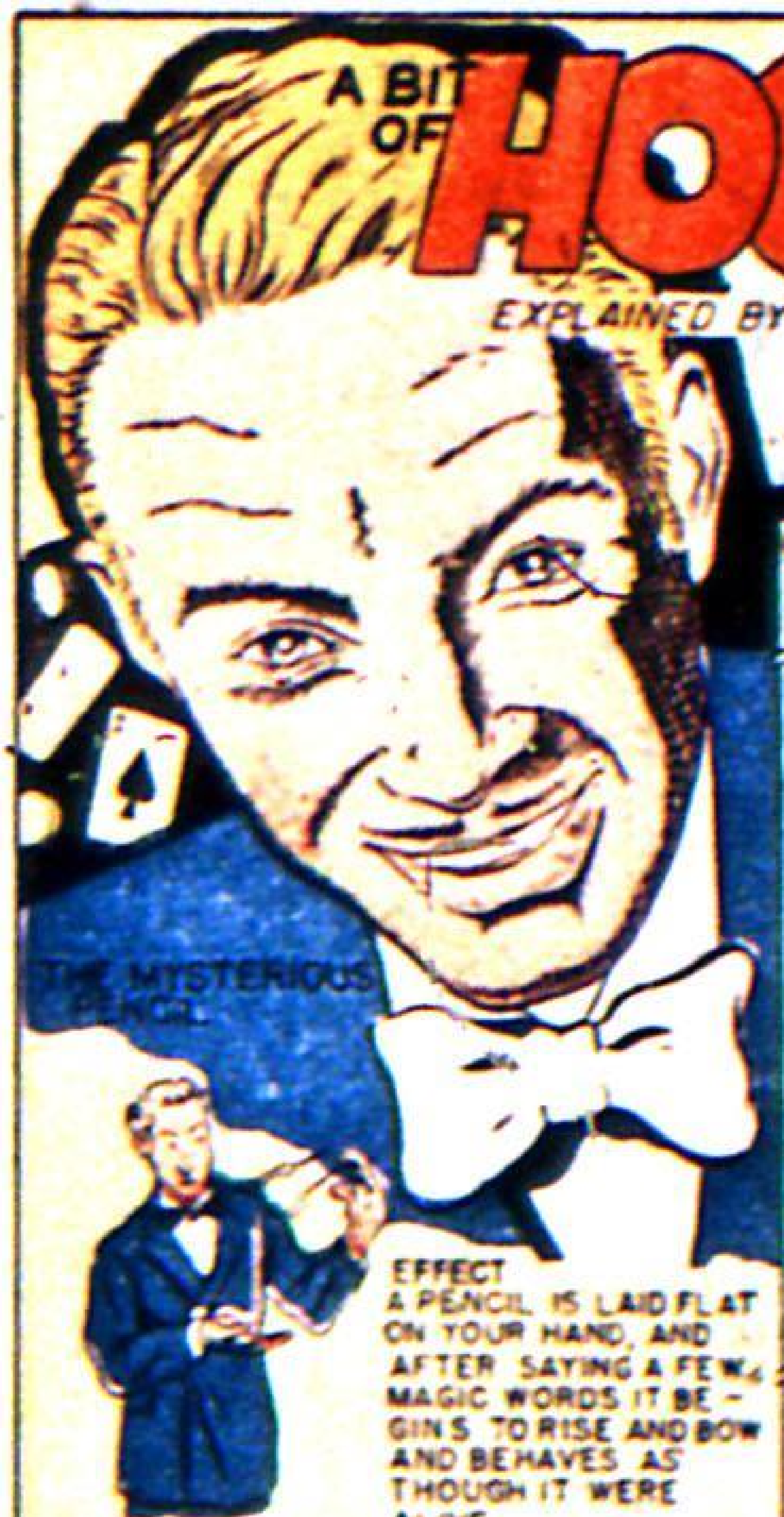
WATCH FOR THEM!!

A BIT OF HOCUS POCUS

EXPLAINED BY THE FAMOUS INTERNATIONAL MAGICIAN

Keith CLARK

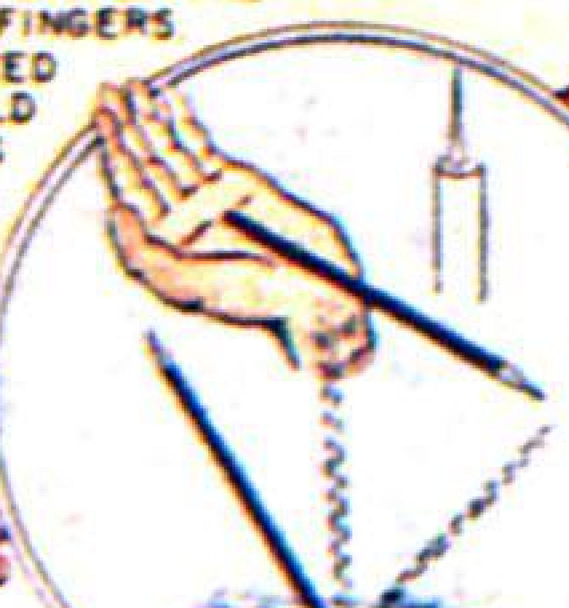
RED HOLMDALE



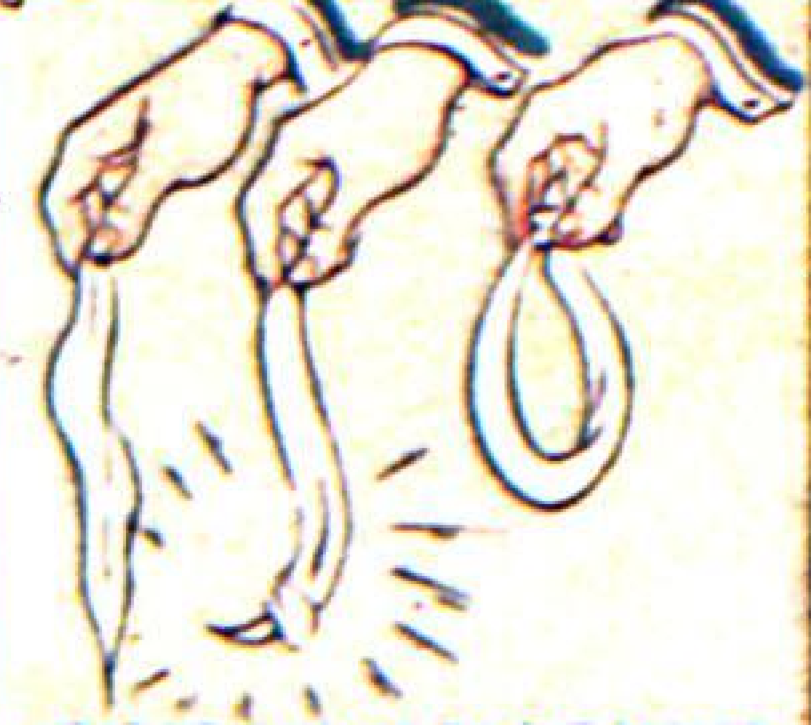
THE MYSTERIOUS PENCIL

EFFECT
A PENCIL IS LAID FLAT ON YOUR HAND, AND AFTER SAYING A FEW MAGIC WORDS IT BEGINS TO RISE AND BOW AND BEHAVES AS THOUGH IT WERE ALIVE.........

SECRET—A PIN POINT WITH THE SHARP END OUT IS INSERTED IN THE END OF THE PENCIL, AND THE POINT CAUGHT IN THE SKIN AT THE BASE OF THE FINGERS. THE POINT CAN BE INSERTED JUST ENOUGH TO TAKE HOLD WITHOUT ACTUALLY GOING THROUGH THE SKIN. THEN, BY SLIGHTLY EXPANDING AND CONTRACTING THE HAND—THE PENCIL WILL GO THROUGH ITS REMARKABLE EVOLUTIONS.....



THE MYSTERIOUS KNOT—

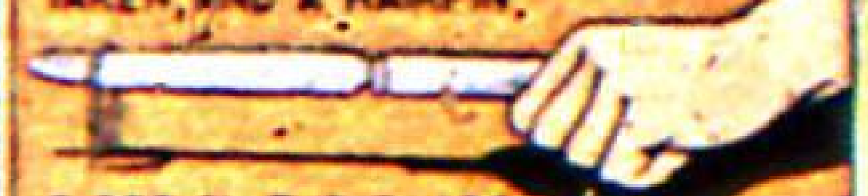


HOLDING A HANKY BY ONE CORNER WITH OPPOSITE CORNER DANGLING, YOU RAISE THE LOWER CORNER AND DROP IT TWO OR THREE TIMES. FINALLY A KNOT APPEARS.....

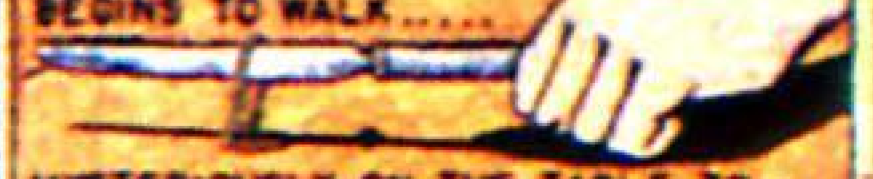
SECRET—THE KNOT IS ALREADY TIED-ON THE UPPER CORNER IN THE HAND—THE THIRD TIME YOU RAISE THE LOWER CORNER TO THE HAND—KEEP IT THERE AND DROP THE UPPER CORNER.....

THE WALKING HAIR PIN—

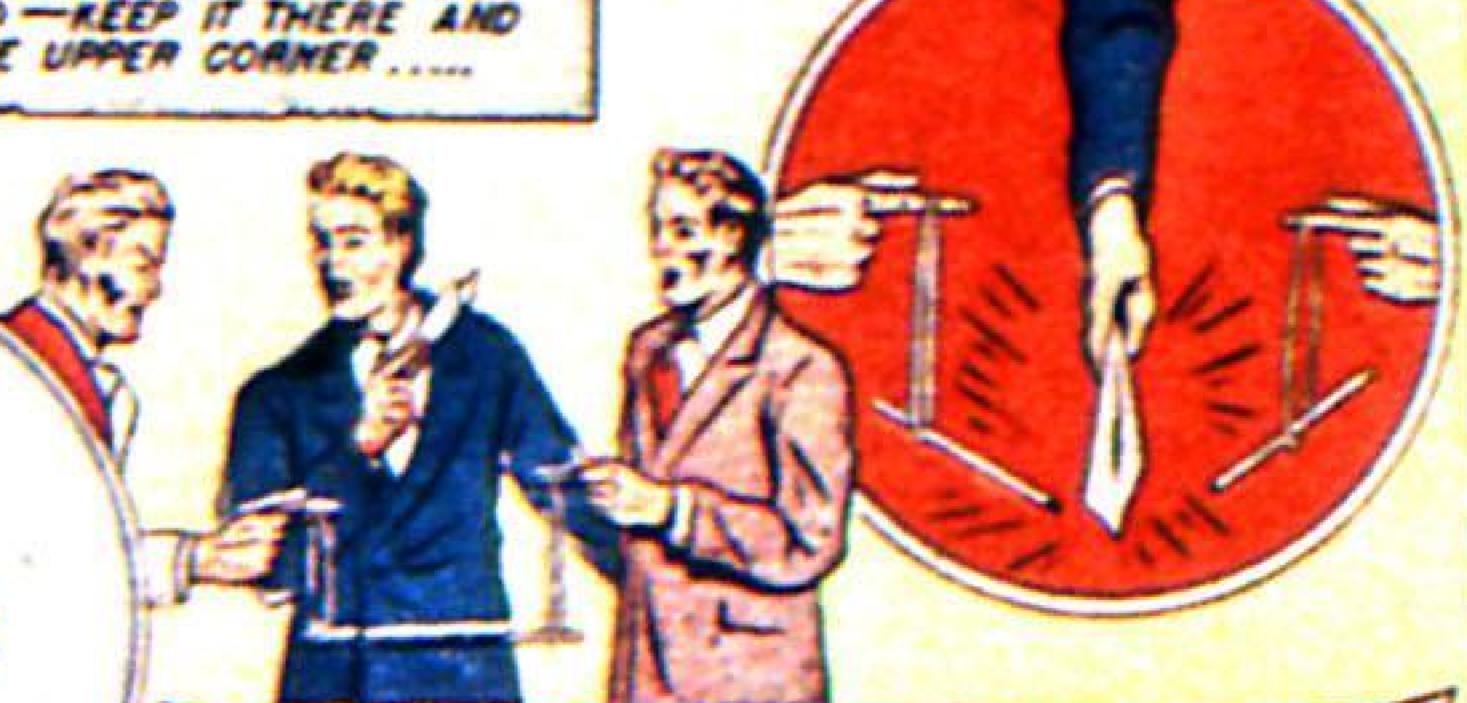
EFFECT—A TABLE KNIFE IS TAKEN, AND A HAIRPIN,



IS SET ON THE BLADE. THEN THE HAIR PIN BEGINS TO WALK......



MYSTERIOUSLY ON THE TABLE TOWARD THE HANDLE OF THE KNIFE—SECRET—DO NOT REST YOUR HAND ON THE TABLE AND THE TRICK WILL WORK AUTOMATICALLY. BE SURE THE HAIR-PIN IS TILTED TOWARD THE HANDLE. THE SLIGHT SHAKING OF YOUR HAND—WHICH YOU DO NOT DO PURPOSELY—WILL MOVE THE PIN.....



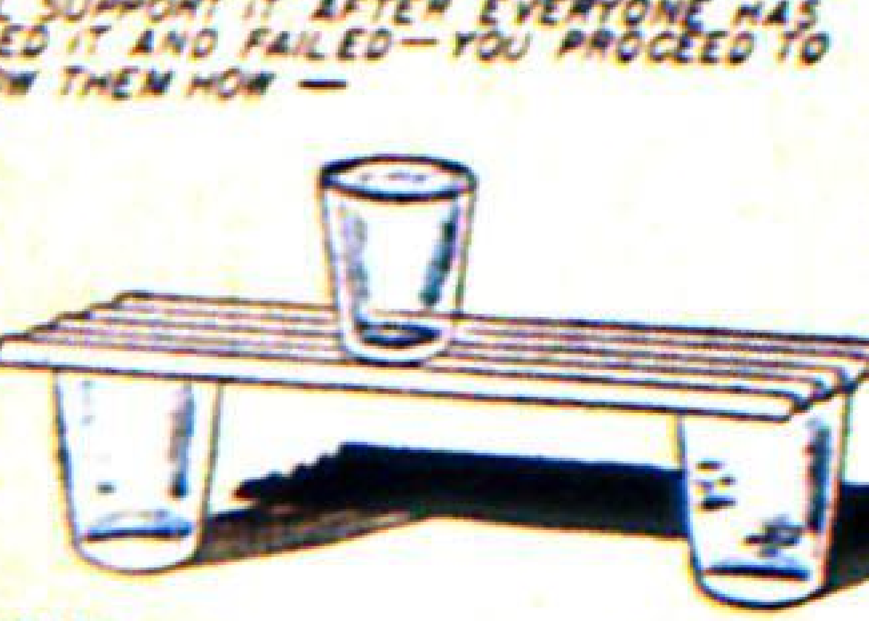
THE BROKEN STICK

EFFECT—A THIN STICK IS HUNG BETWEEN TWO LOOPS OF PAPER—WHICH THE SPECTATORS SUPPORTS WITH THEIR FINGER TIPS—THE MAGICIAN THEN BORROWS A DOLLAR BILL—AND WHEN HE STRIKES THE STICK WITH THE BILL—THE STICK BREAKS IN TWO..........

SECRET—USE A ROUNDED PIECE OF DOWEL STICK, HIT IT SQUARELY NEAR THE CENTER AND THE FORCE OF THE BLOW WILL BE TAKEN BY THE STICK—THE TRICK WORK BY ITSELF ——— !!

THREE GLASSES AND A SHEET OF PAPER

HERE IS A GOOD TABLE STUNT YOU WILL NEED THREE GLASSES AND A SHEET OF PAPER—PLACE THE PAPER ACROSS TWO OF THE GLASSES AND ASK ANYONE TO PLACE THE THIRD GLASS SO THAT PAPER WILL SUPPORT IT. AFTER EVERYONE HAS TRIED IT AND FAILED—YOU PROCEED TO SHOW THEM HOW—

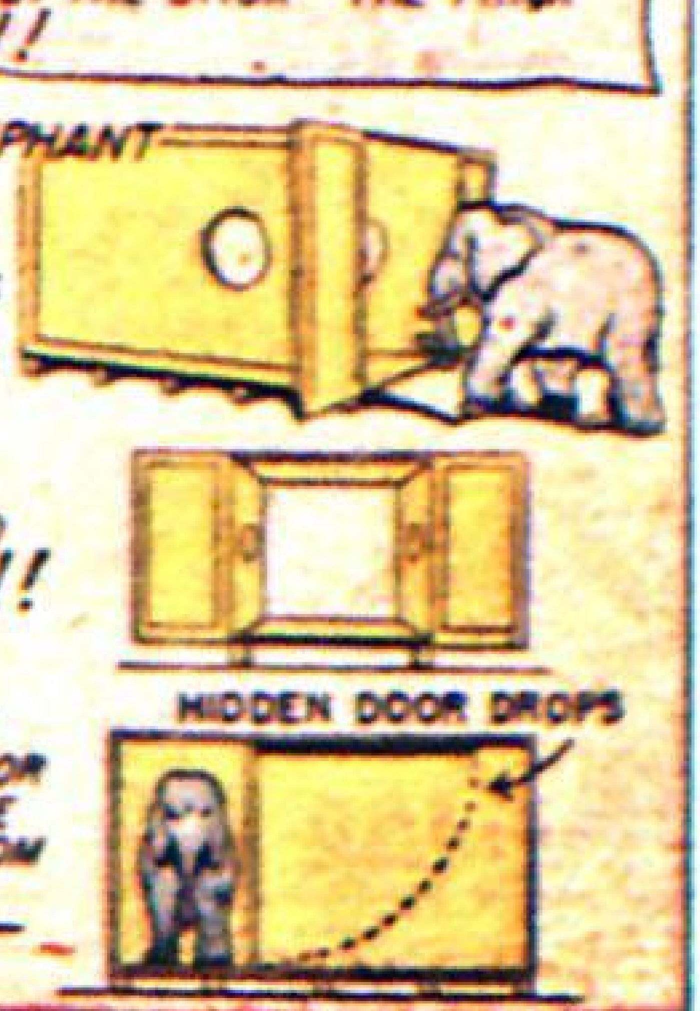


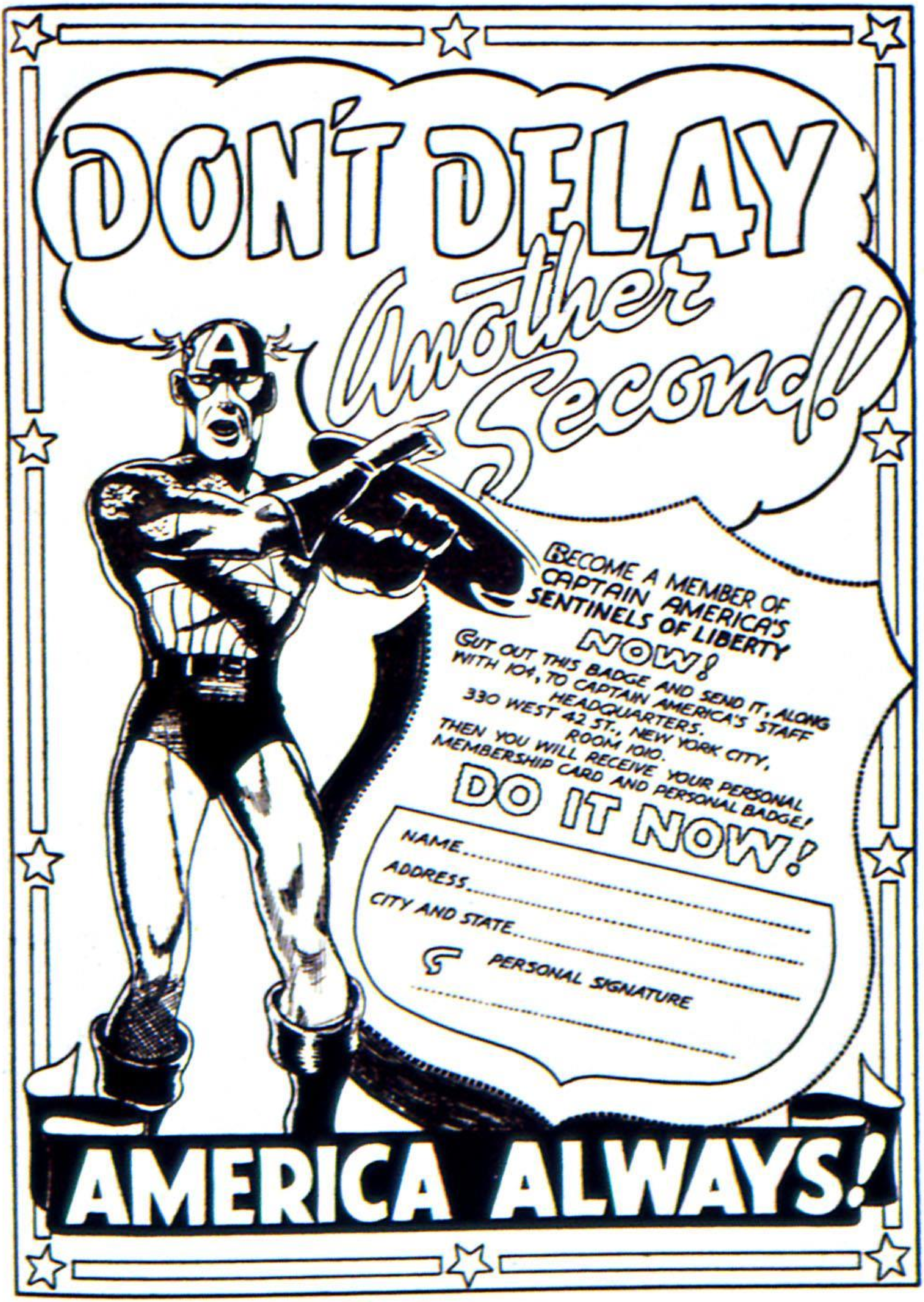
SECRET—
THE ILLUSTRATION ABOVE SHOWS HOW SIMPLY THE PROBLEM CAN BE SOLVED. TAKE TAKE THE PAPER AND PLEAT IT. THE CORRUGATED EFFECT WILL GREATLY STRENGTHEN THE PAPER SO IT WILL EASILY HOLD THE WEIGHT OF THE THIRD GLASS......

THE DISAPPEARING ELEPHANT

EFFECT—AN ELEPHANT IS LED INTO AN EMPTY CABINET AND THEN AFTER CLOSING THE DOORS OF THE CABINET IT IS TURNED ABOUT ON THE STAGE TO PROVE THERE ARE NO TRAP DOORS—IMMEDIATELY AFTER ALL THE SIDES HAVE BEEN SHOWN—THE DOORS ARE AGAIN OPENED AND THE ELEPHANT HAS VANISHED !!

SECRET—THE ILLUSION IS ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FLAP DOOR WHICH DROPS IN FRONT OF THE ELEPHANT THUS HIDING IT FROM THE AUDIENCE'S VIEW—— SEE DRAWING AT RIGHT———




DON'T DELAY Another Second!
AMERICA ALWAYS!

BECOME A MEMBER OF CAPTAIN AMERICA'S **SENTINELS OF LIBERTY**

NOW!

CUT OUT THIS BADGE AND SEND IT, ALONG WITH 10¢, TO CAPTAIN AMERICA'S STAFF HEADQUARTERS.
330 WEST 42 ST., NEW YORK CITY,
ROOM 1010.
THEN YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR PERSONAL MEMBERSHIP CARD AND PERSONAL BADGE!

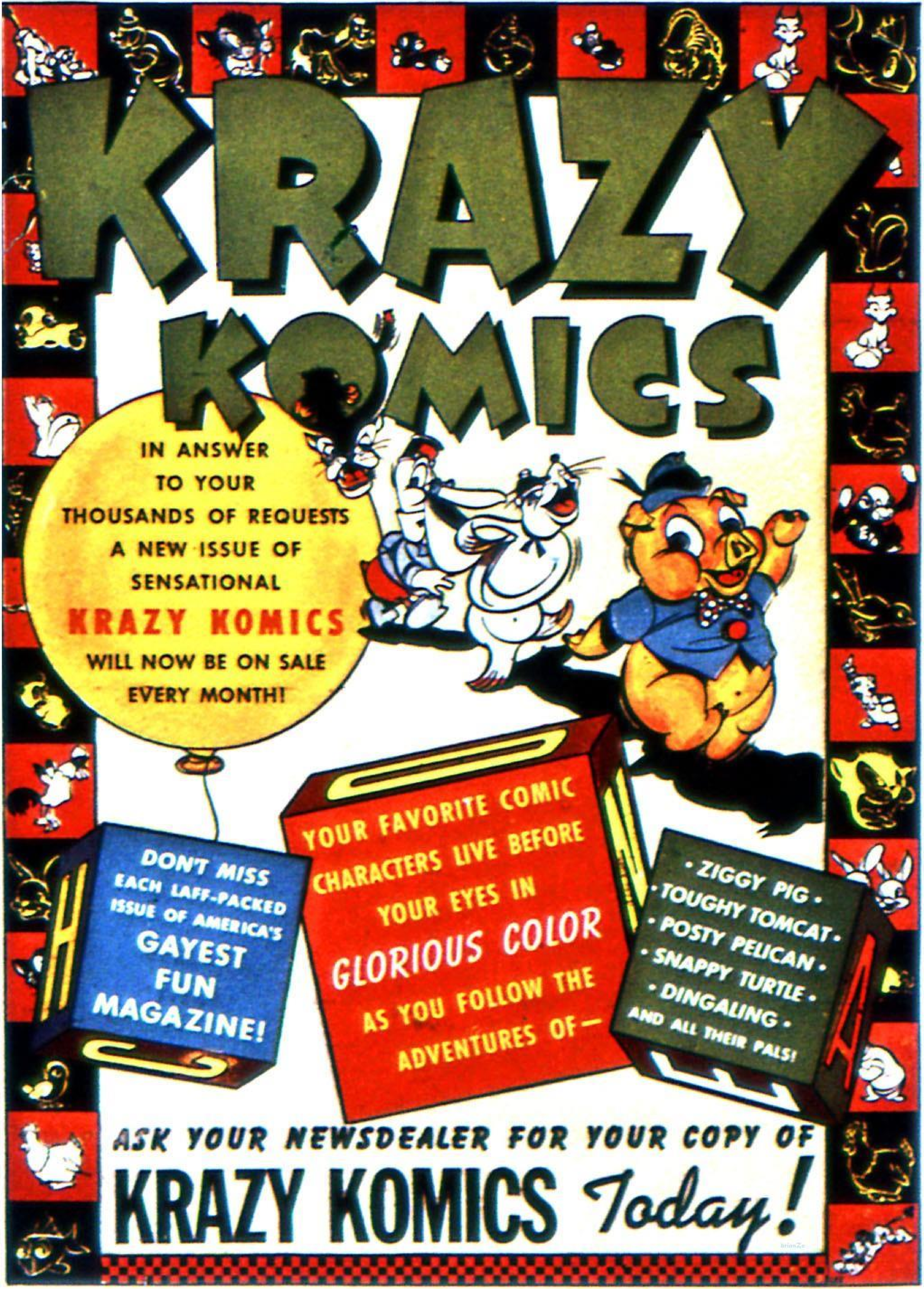
DO IT NOW!

NAME..

ADDRESS..

CITY AND STATE......................................

....
PERSONAL SIGNATURE



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